ichtys

バンなのに飼いてみました。
ラビとうわれる種は大変な方向へ走ったりします。

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SQUARE ENIX.

「シーラが魔王ではないのか!?」
広く強さを続けた疑惑を、ついにシーラに問うた勇者…
そのシーラの答えが今でを狂わせてしまった時、
すべての覚悟が、明暗された悲劇となり上り始める――
勇者と魔王という定められた運命を覆すことは不可能なのか――!?

週刊好評発売中

ばらほに 1～5 秋桜べさる
公式ガイドブック ばらほに 1～2 秋桜べさる
多世界探偵ふ用意少女ゆの(3ぷち) 1～2 秋桜べさる
隠の王 1～10 綾辻笙馬
リベラメンテ 綾辻笙馬原案 綾辻笙馬
Pandora Heart 1～17 望月 淳
Crimson Shell 全1巻 望月 淳
ZOMBIE-LOAN 1～5 PEACH-PIT
カミヨネコ 1～5 長谷川葉屋
虎執事 1～10 有 やは
Rust Blaster 全1巻 有 やは
キューティクル探偵因幡 1～4 もち
高嶺学級 1～5 真神 真
ボンる姉妹応援ボボボボ団ボラちゃん 1～3 鈴木次郎
うみのこのくまにて 1～4 明鏡ロロ・鈴木次郎
うみのこのくまに 特別編 全2巻 明鏡ロロ・鈴木次郎
うみのこのくまに 番外編 全2巻 明鏡ロロ・鈴木次郎
シュピリアリクロス 1～4 ichtys
アュラランラ!! 1～2 成田良悟・長島大将代
10-4 1～2 高河ゆん
白雪姫伝説 1 綾辻ムカ
D・ドロップス 1 柳名
ランメルモールの少年騎兵隊 1 原作:七
蒼穹戦記 ビビルハウス事件 前編 木津幸敏・さやわか
蒼穹戦記 いたづらカット事件 前後編 木津幸敏・綾辻笙馬
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switch 全1巻 nakaki ape
緋のウルースニク 全1巻 岩佐まさこ
Tip-toe Cinderella note 全1巻 ゆたろう
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トリフィルファンタジア 全2巻 佐倉おりま

■最新刊の情報は最新号または公式サイトで!!

月刊少年ガンガン 毎月18日発売

Superior
シュービアリア・クロス
4
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そしてシーラの答えが全てを狂わせてしまった時、

すべての愛情が、増幅された憎悪となり走り始める

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既刊好評発売中

ぱにぽに 1～15 氷川へきる
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新感覚癒し系魔法少女ペホイミちゃん 1～2 氷川へきる
隠の王 1～13 鎌谷悠希
リベラメンテ 鎌谷悠希短編集 鎌谷悠希
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キューティクル探偵因幡 1～6 もち
鳥籠学級 1～5 真柴 真
まじかる無双天使 突き刺せ!!呂布子ちゃん 1～5 鈴木次郎
うみねこのなく頃に Episode1 Turn of the golden witch 1～4 電撃士07・鈴木次郎
ひぐらしのなく頃に 祟殺し編 全2巻 電撃士07・鈴木次郎
ひぐらしのなく頃に 宵越し編 全2巻 電撃士07・みもり
ひぐらしのなく頃に 解 皆殺し編 全6巻 電撃士07 竜山ひなせ
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夏期限定トロピカルパフェ事件 前 米澤穂信・さみさみ
春期限定いちごタルト事件 前 後 米澤穂信・籠尾歴子
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ToHeart2~colorful note~ 全5巻 きたうみつな
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トリフィルファンタジア 全2巻 夜麻みゆき

●品切れの時は本屋さんに注文して下さい

毎月18日発売

# シュービアリア・クロス Superior

ichtys イクシス

## 第1巻発売記念

## 特製描き下ろし図書カードプレゼント実施!!

特製図書カードを50名様にプレゼント!
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CFC Comics

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すべての愛情が、増幅された憎悪となり走り始める——

勇者と魔王という定められた運命を覆すことは不可能なのか——!?

並外れた力をもつ魔物で、いつしか魔王と呼ばれる存在になる。魔王であることを隠したまま、勇者に恋をしてしまった…。

魔王を討伐するべき勇者。剣技の達人であり、魔法も使える。シーラが魔王ではないかという疑惑を言えないままでいる。

「シュービアリア・クロス」は、
月刊Gファンタジー(毎月18日発売)にて、
大好評連載中!!

シュービアリア・クロス 4

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SQUARE ENIX

時代は3D…!! というわけで

## 表のイクラスマークを立体に見る見方

左目で右絵を　右目で左絵を見ます。

まず、絵と目の中心くらいの位置に

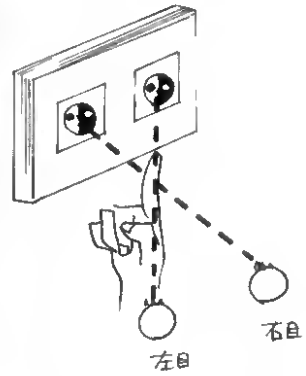
人指し指を立ててじっと指先を見て下さい。

人指し指の向こうがわにぼんやりと3枚の絵が

見えてくるので寄り目の視線を保ったまま

真ん中の絵に焦点を合わせて下さい。

すると.. なんとイクラスのマークが立体に…!!




ステレオグラムの交差法という見方
昔はやりましたよね。
次はもうちょっとこった写真でやりたいなぁ。。

※見え方には個人差があり、3Dに見えない場合もございます。
ご了承ください。

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パンなど焼いてみました。
シュピクロ4巻は大変な方向へと進んでおります。

4

シュピアリア・クロス

# Superior

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HERO. I HAVE A REQUEST FOR YOU.
WOULD YOU PLEASE AGREE TO SOME CROSS DRESS...
HELL NO.

# Story.13 老人桃太郎

MY REASONS, EH? SO IF I TELL YOU, YOU'LL WEAR THOSE CLOTHES FOR ME, RIGHT!!
YOU OUGHT TO BE AT THE CASTLE, RENE-SAN. INSTEAD, YOU COME OUT OF NOWHERE TO TELL ME THIS. HOW COME?
...WHY SHOULD I ?!
I NEVER AGREED TO ANYTHING
I'M AGAINST IT! I AM TOTALLY AGAINST IT! AND I CAN'T THINK OF ANY REASON TO CROSS-DRESS FOR ANYWAY!
DO YOU EVEN HAVE A REASON YOU WANT TO MAKE ME CROSS-DRESS FOR?
EASY THERE! SO, WHAT'S THE DEAL?
ARE YOU GONNA WEAR THEM OR NOT? MAKE UP YOUR MIND!
KEEL YA
KEEL YA
A CERTAIN FELLOWSHIP
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, A CERTAIN FELLOWSHIP? AND THEN, WHAT IS THAT WHOLE LEGEND THING ABOUT?
AND THEN AGAIN, I NEVER SAID ANYTHING ABOUT DISGUISING MYSELF ONCE I HEARD YOUR STORY!!
YOU WILL HELP ME PROVIDED YOU HEAR MY STORY FIRST, THEN. I SHALL TELL YOU OF THE LEGEND, THEN, AND IF I MUST BE PUNISHED BY SOME FELLOWSHIP FOR DOING SO, SO BE IT...
HAA
YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE

THEY WOULD STRIP PEOPLE OF THEIR VALUABLES AND TAKE THEIR LIVES, CARRYING OUT THE SAME MISDEEDS OVER AND OVER AGAIN.
...THAT'S THE BEGINNING OF YOUR STORY? I MEAN, WITH AN INTRODUCTION LIKE THAT, YOU DIDN'T MEAN "A LEGEND", BUT "AN OLD WIVES' TALE"...
SOMEWHERE, LONG, LONG AGO, THERE WAS A FELLOWSHIP OF EVIL OGRES.
THE OLD MAN USED TO BE STRONG ENOUGH TO THREATEN OGRES IN HIS PAST. HE WAS A LEGENDARY HERO BUT BY NOW, CIVILIZATION HAD GOTTEN THE BEST OF HIM...
AND THERE WITHIN THE MOUNTAIN, AND OLD COUPLE IN HARMONY.
...AND HE'D DEVOLVED INTO A PERFECT NEET.
CAN'T GO WITHOUT MY BRIDE!!
OLD MAN!!

TN: NEET=NOT IN EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION OR TRAINING

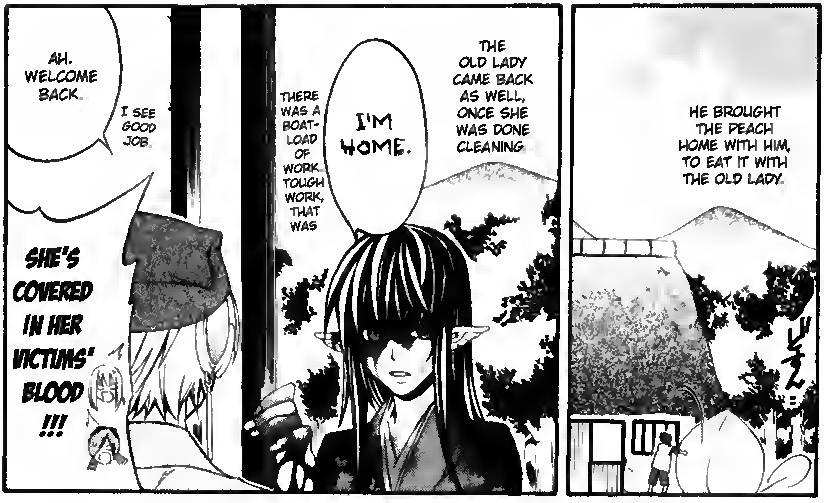
HIS FEELINGS TOWARDS SOCIETY GREW INCREASINGLY TWISTED.
DIE.
DIE.
WHATEVER HE'S WHISPERING ABOUT, IT'S KINDA SCARY!
IF THAT'S WHAT I'M GONNA BE LIKE, I'M BETTER OFF DEAD.
HE WOULD SPEND ENTIRE DAYS DOING NOTHING BUT GAMING
HOW ABOUT AN INTERNET SEARCH? NAH, NO WAY! THAT'D BE RUDE TO MY BRIDE.
OF COURSE HE NEVER SET FOOT OUTSIDE THE HOUSE EITHER.
ONE DAY, HIS WIFE SNAPPED.
GET A JOB, NEET.
THE OLD MAN RELUCTANTLY WENT OUT TO THE MOUNTAIN TO GET SOME FIREWOOD.
TSK.
HEAVE-HO
THERE'S A NEW GAME OUT TODAY, SO I NEED SOME CA...
OOF
WHAT'S THAT HAND MEAN?!
C'MON
TWINKLE

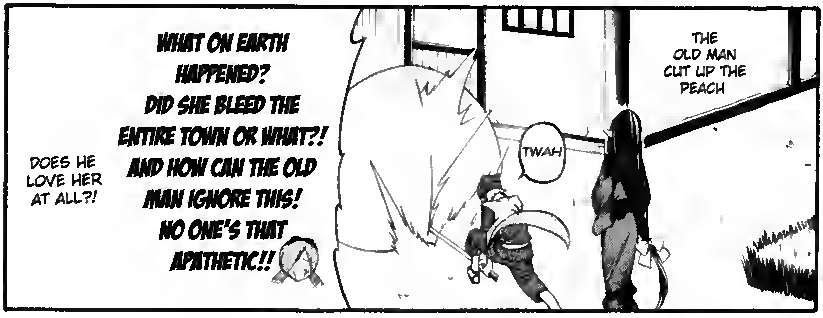
AND THE OLD LADY WENT TO TOWN TO DO SOME CLEANING
UH..? TO TOWN..? WOULDN'T THE RIVER BE MORE LIKE IT..?
I HAVE COME TO PERFORM A SWEEPING CLEANSING OF THIS TOWN!!
SAKAMOTO ...MA?

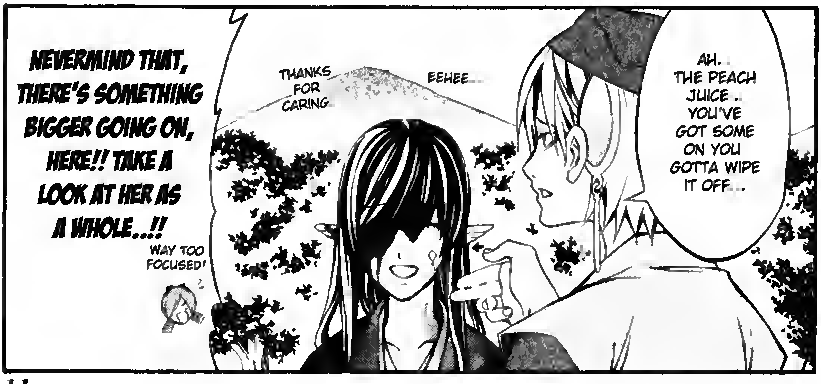
TN: THE "RYOU" KANJI IS OBSCURED FOR SOME REASON, BUT THIS IS CLEARLY MEANT TO BE SAKAMOTO RYOUMA, THE MAN WHO HELPED END THE TOKUGAWA SHOGUNATE AND IS CONSIDERED ONE OF THE FATHERS OF MODERN JAPAN

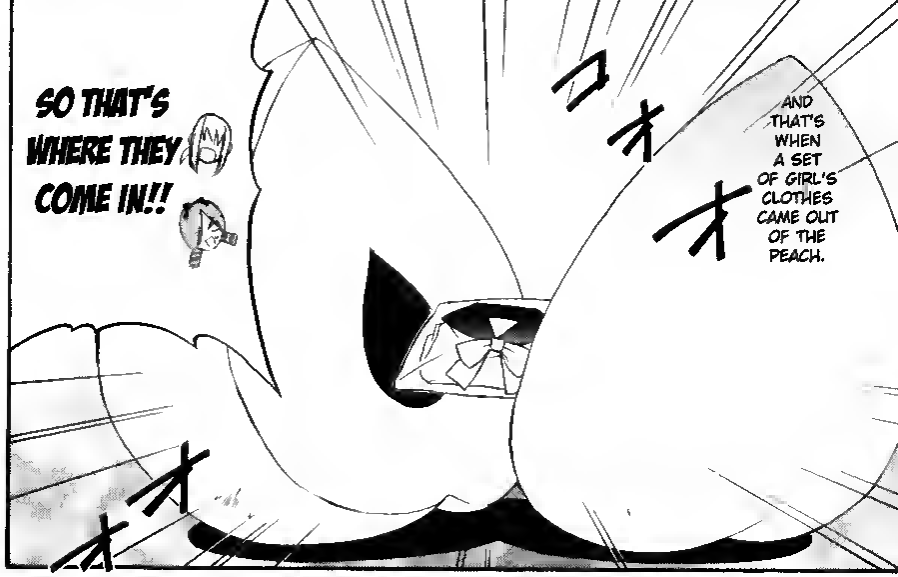
HE'S BENT ON IGNORING US, HE IS..!!
...IS IN THE MOUNTAIN, GATHERING FIREWOOD
HEY, NO! I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE OLD MAN RIGHT NOW! I WANNA KNOW ABOUT THE LADY!!
MEANWHILE, THE OLD MAN ...
SIGH WHAT A PAIN
...A LARGE PEACH CAME ROLLING DOWN THE MOUNTAIN AT TREMENDOUS SPEED.
UUUU-UUH?!!
WITHOUT THINKING, THE OLD MAN CRIED OUT...
THE PEACH IS GONNA GET DAMAGED !!
YOU'LL GET HURT WELL BEFORE THAT HAPPENS!
MORE LIKE, YOU'RE GONNA GET KILLED, YEAH!!
RUN FOR IT!!

ズル
ズル
ズル
ズル
ズル
ズン
TRUDGE TRUDGE
THAT OLD MAN'S REALLY SOME-THING !!
THANK GOODNESS NOTHING BAD HAPPENED TO HIM, I SUP-POSE..?!
WHOOP


AH. WELCOME BACK.
I SEE GOOD JOB.
SHE'S COVERED IN HER VICTIMS' BLOOD !!!
THERE WAS A BOAT-LOAD OF WORK. TOUGH WORK, THAT WAS
I'M HOME.
THE OLD LADY CAME BACK AS WELL, ONCE SHE WAS DONE CLEANING
HE BROUGHT THE PEACH HOME WITH HIM, TO EAT IT WITH THE OLD LADY.
ぴえん


DOES HE LOVE HER AT ALL?!
WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED? DID SHE BLEED THE ENTIRE TOWN OR WHAT?! AND HOW CAN THE OLD MAN IGNORE THIS! NO ONE'S THAT APATHETIC!!
TWAH
THE OLD MAN CUT UP THE PEACH


NEVERMIND THAT, THERE'S SOMETHING BIGGER GOING ON, HERE!! TAKE A LOOK AT HER AS A WHOLE...!!
WAY TOO FOCUSED!
THANKS FOR CARING
EEHEE...
AH.. THE PEACH JUICE.. YOU'VE GOT SOME ON YOU GOTTA WIPE IT OFF..

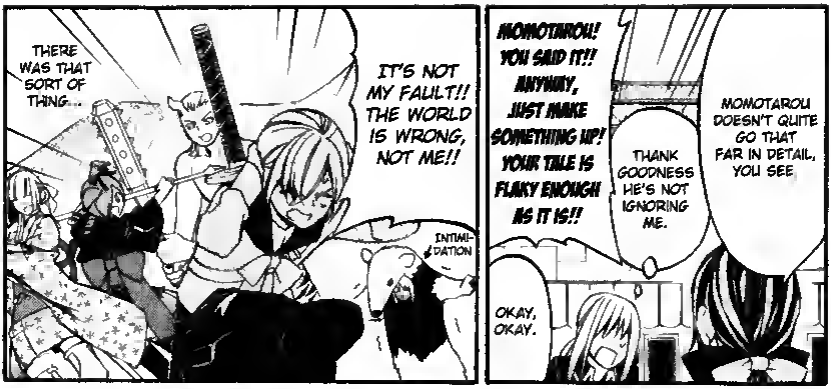

SO THAT'S WHERE THEY COME IN!!
AND THAT'S WHEN A SET OF GIRL'S CLOTHES CAME OUT OF THE PEACH.

AND THE OLD MAN WORE THEM...
TA-TAAAAM
WHY ?!

THE OLD MAN DECIDED TO RECLAIM HIS OLD SELF, PUNISH EVIL AND EXTERMINATE THE OGRES
CLICK
NICE!
HE WENT RIGHT BACK TO BEING WORTHLESS
CLICK
VERY NICE!
TAKE THESE THINGS OFF HIM AND STOP HIM, OLD LADY!!
WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT! STRANGELY ENOUGH, HE FELT A SURGE OF POWER.
WRONG!! THAT POWER SURGE IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT IN NATURE !!
THE OLD LADY PREPARED SOME MILLET DANGO AND SENT HIM OFF

 TN: DANGO ARE SWEET DUMPLINGS

AS WELL AS AN ANTEATER
INTIMIDATION
TREMBLE
WHAT'S AN ANTEATER DOING HERE?!!
TREMBLE
SPEAKING OF WHICH, HEY THAT'S MOMOTAROU, ISN'T IT?
THE STORY'S PRETTY UNEVEN IN ITS PROGRESSION
I LIKE SWEETS
THANKS TO THOSE, THE OLD MAN BEFRIENDED A MONKEY AND A DOG
HERE YOU ARE
CUTE GIRL!
SO HE MADE FRIENDS WITH SOMETHING THAT LOOKED LIKE A PHEASANT
QUAWK
TREMBLE
MOMOTAROU HAD A PHEASANT IN IT! WHICH REMINDS ME, MOMOTAROU HIMSELF IS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND!
APOLOGIES! THE ANTEATER WILL DO FINE!
COULDN'T QUITE REMEMBER WHAT THE THING WAS SUPPOSED TO LOOK LIKE
TREMBLE
THEN THEY REACHED ONIGASHIMA, THE ISLAND OF DEMONS AFTER MANY AN ADVENTURE
AFTER MANY AN ADVENTURE!! WHAT IS THIS?
THERE'S A LIMIT EVEN TO WONKY STORYTELLING!


THERE WAS THAT SORT OF THING...
IT'S NOT MY FAULT!! THE WORLD IS WRONG, NOT ME!!
INTIMI-DATION
MOMOTAROU! YOU SAID IT!! ANYWAY, JUST MAKE SOMETHING UP! YOUR TALE IS FLAKY ENOUGH AS IT IS!!
THANK GOODNESS HE'S NOT IGNORING ME.
MOMOTAROU DOESN'T QUITE GO THAT FAR IN DETAIL, YOU SEE.
OKAY, OKAY.

AN EMO PHASE?!
STAY AWAY FROM ME!! I AM HORRIFICALLY CURSED RIGHT NOW ..!!
A SIMPLE COLD
I'M GONNA DIE SOMEDAY, I'M POSITIVE
HE'S NOT FEVERISH AT ALL
AND THIS AS WELL!

SFX COUGH COUGH

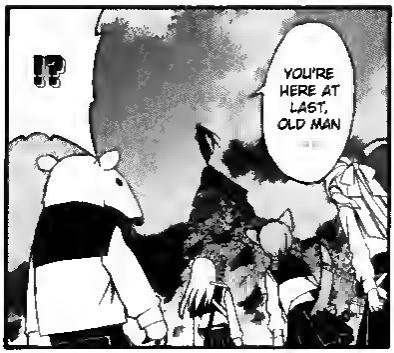
UNTIL THEY MADE IT TO ONIGASHIMA.
PRETTY FITTING, THAT! BUT HEY, THE OLD MAN IS CHANGING LIKE THERE'S NO TOMOR-ROW!!
WHAT THE HECK HAPPENED ?!

FORGIVE ME, OLD LADY. I'VE BEEN A REALLY BAD BOY
I EXERCISED DAILY. EATING THREE MEALS A DAY. WAKING WITH THE SUNRISE EVERY MORNING, AND LIVING A WELL-REGULATED LIFE HAS MADE ME AWARE OF THE SHORTCOMINGS I'D HAD SO FAR.

THE MOCK EXAM TAKES PLACE TOMORROW! I'LL STUDY TO BECOME THE BEST!! WATCH ME, OLD LADY!!!
THE OLD MAN HAS CHANGED HIS GOALS ?!

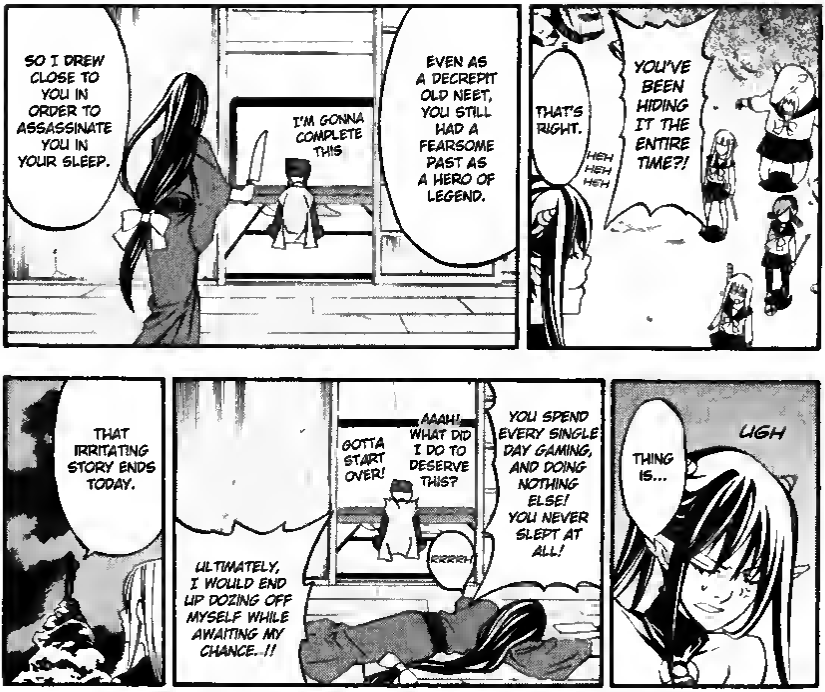
HEY, GUYS! TRANSFORM-ATION!!
LOOK AT HIM NOW
EXCEPT THE MAIN PREMISES ARE TREATED AS AN ASIDE IN THE PROCESS !!
BUT BEFORE WE GET THERE, WE NEED TO EXTERMINATE THE OGRES FOR THEIR OPPRESSIVE RULE OVER HUMAN BEINGS!
HI
LET ME EXPLAIN!! WHEN THEY DRESS UP LIKE GIRLS, THEY MAY UNLEASH A POWER 5 TIMES GREATER THAN NORMAL. DUDUDUUUUN
BISHOUJO SAILOR SQUAD!!
YOU'RE MAKING THAT UP!!
I'LL SHOW YOU "DUDU-DUUUN"!
AND SOME OF THE CHARACTERS ARE FEMALE!
DRESSING UP AS GIRLS
ALL OF THEM? WHY?!

I KNOW THAT VOICE...
IT... IT CAN'T BE

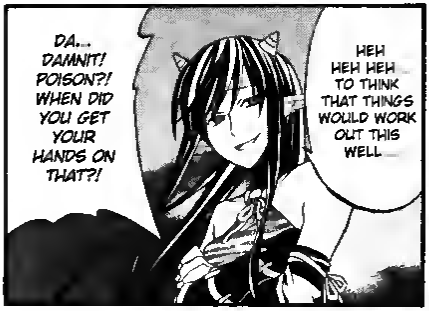

!?
YOU'RE HERE AT LAST, OLD MAN

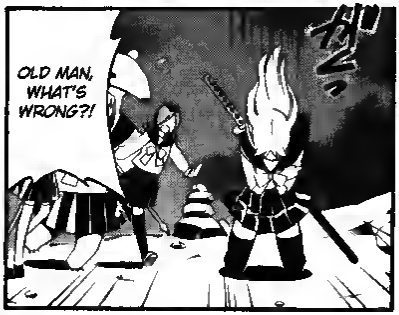
YOU, OLD LADY ..?!
INCREDIBLE! THE ENEMY GENERAL TURNED OUT TO BE THE OLD LADY HERSELF!

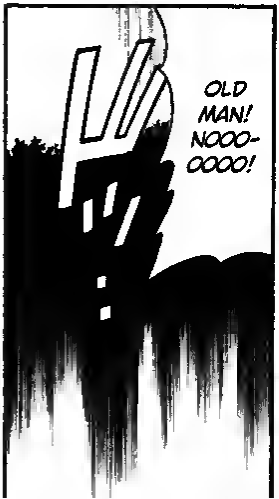
YES IT CAN! THE GENERAL WHO'S BEEN CONTROLLING THOSE OGRES WAS NONE ELSE BUT ME.


SO I DREW CLOSE TO YOU IN ORDER TO ASSASSINATE YOU IN YOUR SLEEP.
I'M GONNA COMPLETE THIS
EVEN AS A DECREPIT OLD NEET, YOU STILL HAD A FEARSOME PAST AS A HERO OF LEGEND.
YOU'VE BEEN HIDING IT THE ENTIRE TIME?!
THAT'S RIGHT.
HEH HEH HEH
THAT IRRITATING STORY ENDS TODAY.
ULTIMATELY, I WOULD END UP DOZING OFF MYSELF WHILE AWAITING MY CHANCE..!!
GOTTA START OVER!
AAAH! WHAT DID I DO TO DESERVE THIS?
SCREECH
YOU SPEND EVERY SINGLE DAY GAMING, AND DOING NOTHING ELSE! YOU NEVER SLEPT AT ALL!
UGH
THING IS...
WHAT..?!
WHOA I GUESS IT'S ABOUT TIME
BECAUSE AS OF NOW YOUR LIFE IS FORFEIT

UH..?!


DA... DAMNIT! POISON?! WHEN DID YOU GET YOUR HANDS ON THAT?!
HEH HEH HEH... TO THINK THAT THINGS WOULD WORK OUT THIS WELL...


OLD MAN, WHAT'S WRONG?!


OLD MAN! NOOO-OOOO!

NO GOOD...
I'M PASSING OUT..

OLD MAN, STAY WITH US..!!

YOU TURNED YOUR BACK ON GAMING TO LIVE A WELL-REGULATED LIFE, WHICH MEANS ONCE IT GETS DARK, YOUR BODY CLAIMS A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF REST.
CRA.. DROWSI-NESS..!!
DROWSI-NESS?!
DAMNIT! THAT WAS A LOW BLOW..!!
I CAN DO NO MORE TOMORROW I TAKE THE MOCK EXAM NEED REST
OLD MAN, YOU CAN'T SLEEP RIGHT NOW! YOU WILL DIE IF YOU DO..!!

DIE...
THAT'S RIGHT!! IF YOU'RE SO SLEEPY, I MIGHT AS WELL MAKE SURE YOU NEVER WAKE UP!!
...OLD MAN..?!

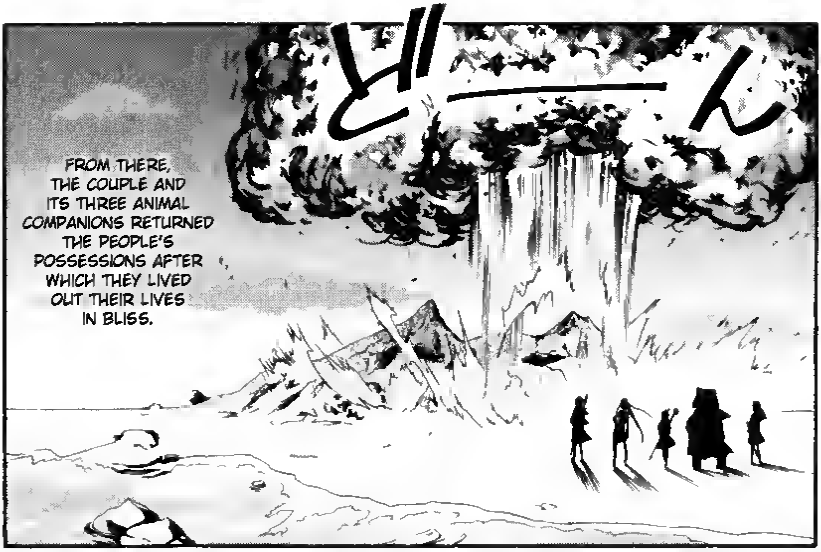
TWO OF THEM...?!
OLD LADY...
DON'T BE FOOLED!! I'M THE REAL ONE!!
OLD LADY!
HELL...
OLD MAN! ARE YOU OKAY?!

OLD MAN. SORRY FOR DECEIVING YOU ALL THIS TIME.
SO YOU WERE THE OGRES' GENERAL .??
!?
I WANTED TO BE HAPPY, SO I THOUGHT OF HIDING THE FACT THAT I WAS AN OGRE SO I COULD LIVE WITH YOU
AFTER WHICH I RAN INTO YOU.
THIS IS MY TWIN BACK IN THE DAYS, SHE CAST ME OUT OF THE ISLAND BECAUSE I WOULDN'T HURT PEOPLE.
I'VE BEEN TRICKING YOU ALL THIS TIME
I DOUBT YOU'LL EVER FORGIVE ME FOR IT
BUT IN TOWN, SOME OGRES WOULD SHAPESHIFT INTO HUMANS TO WREAK HAVOC, AND I KNEW IT.
I WAS AN OGRE MYSELF, AND THIS WAS A FACT I COULDN'T ESCAPE FROM

NO. YOU MIGHT BE BORN AN OGRE.
BUT YOU'VE BEEN WARDING OFF THOSE OF YOUR KIND WHO WOULD HURT PEOPLE... YOU'RE NOT A BAD PERSON.
I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU WERE CREATED AS... I LOVE YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.
OLD MAN...

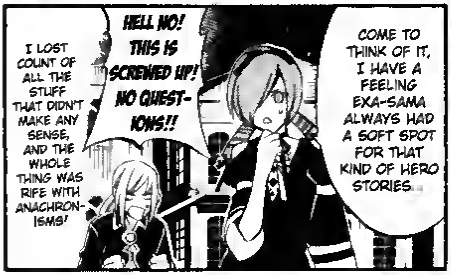
HAVEN'T TASTED YOUR COOKING IN A WHILE. I'VE BEEN MISSING IT.
FLIRTING
YOU, OLD MAN YOU
HAH
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!!
IF THAT'S WHAT IT MUST COME TO, I SHALL SEND EVERYONE, MAN OR OGRE TO THEIR WATERY GRAVES BEGONE!
OH, CRAP! IF SHE UNLEASHES THAT BLAST THE ISLAND WON'T BE ABLE TO TAKE IT! WE'RE GONNA SINK!!

IT'S THE STRIFE BETWEEN US TWIN SISTERS THAT STARTED ALL THIS! SO LONG AS THE CONFLICT PERSIST, THIS EVIL WILL NEVER END!
OLD MAN! GIVE ME YOUR HAND!!
SURE!! I'M AWAKE, THANKS TO YOU!!
LET'S ALL JOIN OUR FORCES TO BRING HER DOWN!
PUNISH-MENT!!!


とーーーん
FROM THERE, THE COUPLE AND ITS THREE ANIMAL COMPANIONS RETURNED THE PEOPLE'S POSSESSIONS AFTER WHICH THEY LIVED OUT THEIR LIVES IN BLISS.

SFX WEARY

SFX TWINKLE


I LOST COUNT OF ALL THE STUFF THAT DIDN'T MAKE ANY SENSE, AND THE WHOLE THING WAS RIFE WITH ANACHRONISMS!
HELL NO! THIS IS SCREWED UP! NO QUESTIONS!!
COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVE A FEELING EXA-SAMA ALWAYS HAD A SOFT SPOT FOR THAT KIND OF HERO STORIES.

BY THE WAY, HERO
WHAT IF I TOLD YOU I HAPPENED TO HAVE THE LEGENDARY SET OF CLOTHES ON HAND?
雅。
FOR REAL?!
100% SERIOUS
EXAAAA !!
GET A GRIP!

FAN: ELEGANCE

IT'S BEEN A TREASURED POSSESSION OF HOUSE OBSIDIAS FOR GENERATIONS ON END... FOR MOST EVERYONE, IT IS FOOLISH TO HOPE TO BE ALLOWED TO WEAR IT. MERELY SEEING IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT ENOUGH
嘘。
BUT IF THAT IS YOUR WISH, I SHALL ARRANGE FOR YOU TO WEAR IT. YOU'LL BE GIVEN SPECIAL PERMISSION.

FAN: LIAR

WHAT A CROOK. AND HE'S GREAT AT IT, TOO...
AAAH... MY BOY IS GONE AND HE ISN'T COMING BACK
SOB SOB
REALLY?! THANK YOU!!
ぱぁぁぁ
ドー
THE HECK
DID THAT COME FROM?
OH, I SEE THAT'S THE ONE...
VERY WELL, THEN
THE LEGENDARY PEACH
ぱか
AND HERE'S THE SET OF CLOTHES.

TOO LATE!!
PRINCE ?!
CLAP
YOU HANDLED HIS EDUCATION, DID YOU NOT ?!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!

PRINCE ..!!
AND HE'S NOT ALONE!!

...WHY. .
I SAID I DIDN'T WANT TO.
SO HOW DID I END UP LIKE THIS? SOMEONE TELL ME PLEASE...
QUIT THE FUSS AND GET OUT HERE ALREADY
WHY ARE YOU GUYS SO SOLEMN ABOUT THE WHOLE THING?
HELL, IT'S LIKE ONE NEEDS ONLY TELL YOU THIS IS OFFICIAL WEAR TO GET YOU ALL PUFFED UP!

DON'T SPEAK OF IT NOT HERE
ばっ
SPEAKING OF WHICH, YOU'VE STILL GIVEN US NO EXPLANATION. WHAT ARE THESE CLOTHES F-
WHY..?
CAN'T TALK, RIGHT NOW.
……?

BROTHER..?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE..?

MY BROTHER WAS ALWAYS CONSIDERED A GENIUS.
HE EVENTALLY FOLLOWED IN OUR PARENTS FOOTSTEPS
MOTHER AND FATHER WORKED FOR THE KING AS INVENTORS
AS FOR ME, I WAS JUST MEDIOCRE.

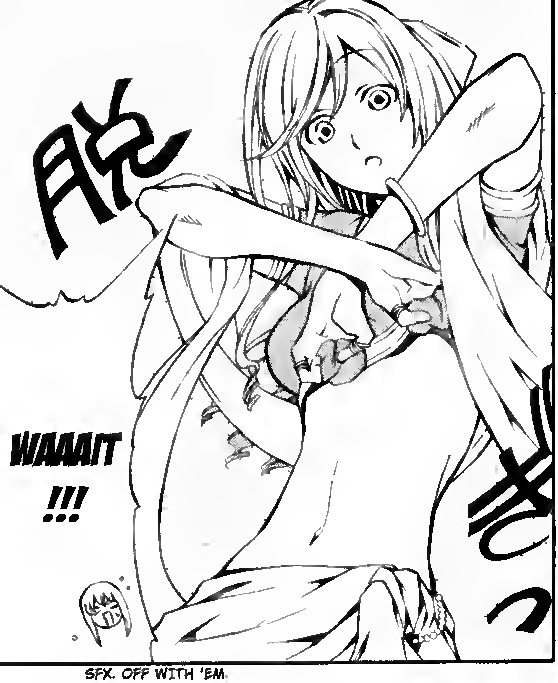
Story.14 血と絆

FREE OF THOSE CLOTHES.
LAKSHRI
THERE'S NOTHING LIKE IT.
OH, MY THIS IS UNBECOMING, LAKSHMI-SAN.
HERO
SEEING YOU PARADING IN THAT OUTFIT WAS BEYOND CREEPY, EKUKO-SAN
GRRRRRR
EASY, EASY
UH? COME TO THINK OF IT, WHAT ABOUT ANGELICA, ROCCI AND JU... JUNO?
CUDDLE
ANGELICA-SAN TOOK AN ENORMOUS LIKING IN JUNO, AND SHE SUGGESTED THAT THEY WENT OUT TO TRY DIFFERENT CLOTHES.

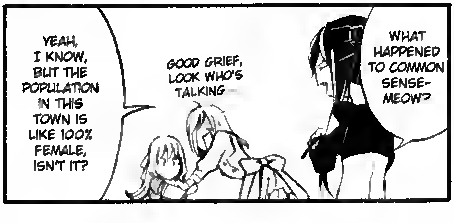
AAAAAAAARGH! SOMEONE HELP ME!
AGREED. THEY RAN AWAY RUNNING AT BREAKNECK SPEED
AH!
GONNA BE OKAY
WELL... I GUESS WE SHOULD BE THANKING GOD FOR THAT...
GONNA BE OKAY?
MUMBLE MUMBLE
LET'S FORGET ABOUT THE REASON FOR THE WHOLE CROSS "BLEEP" THING, IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU TOLD US WHY THERE ARE ONLY WOMEN IN THIS TOWN, DON'T YOU THINK?
OOPS THE FORBIDDEN WORD
ANYWAY, WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA, RENEE-SAN? YOU JUST CAME OUT OF THE BLUE TO MAKE TRANSVES...
COURSE I WOULD.
YOU WOULD TAKE THESE OFF?
FEEL FREE, THEN.
OFFHANDED
HUUH?
HEY THERE, YOU SURE?! AFTER EVERYTHING YOU DID TO HAVE US PUT THESE ON!
SURE. WITHIN 10 MINUTES FROM NOW.

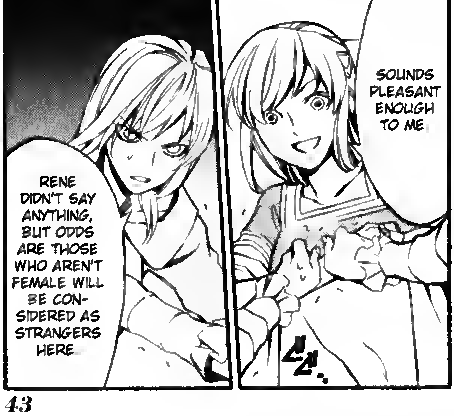
HEY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
I SAID WHAT I HAD TO SAY. LATER.
.....
I DON'T LIKE IT AT ALL.
HE'S GONE. WHAT THE... HECK IS GOING ON? WAS IT ALL JUST ABOUT HIM SHARING HIS SICK TASTES WITH US?
RI— RIGHT BACK AT YOU, EKUKO-SAN
WE'RE ON COMP-ETITION, NOW WHADDA-YAKNOW.
TEASING? ARE YOU TEASING ME? TO HELL WITH YOUR CHANGES OF CHARACTER.
MY, YOU LOOKED PRETTY GOOD LIKE THIS, LAKSHMI-SAN. WHAT A PITY.
THIS IS GETTING CREEPY, IF YOU ASK MEOW.
OOHOOHOOHOO
MERELY HAVING FUN WITH THE CROSS-DRESSING
AHAHAHAHAHA

WOW
WOW
WOW
C.U.T.E CUTE!
AAAAAA-WWW!
THE HECK IS THIS?
.....
THE PRINCE
IS IT MY IMAGINATION, OR IS THE PRINCE A BIT SCARED?
WHAT'S GOING ON..? SOME-THING IN THIS TOWN IS NOT QUITE RIGHT...
ALL THE INHABITANTS ARE FEMALE, BUT THAT'S NOT THE ONLY REASON...
I'VE FELT SOMETHING SIMILAR BEFORE, THOUGH I CAN'T QUITE TELL WHERE THAT WAS...



SFX. OFF WITH 'EM.


YEAH, I KNOW, BUT THE POPULATION IN THIS TOWN IS LIKE 100% FEMALE, ISN'T IT?
GOOD GRIEF, LOOK WHO'S TALKING
WHAT HAPPENED TO COMMON SENSE-MEOW?


SOUNDS PLEASANT ENOUGH TO ME
RENE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING, BUT ODDS ARE THOSE WHO AREN'T FEMALE WILL BE CONSIDERED AS STRANGERS HERE.

IF THEY FIND OUT WE'RE MEN, THINGS COULD GET UGLY.
BETTER STRAIGHTEN UP YOUR ACT.
THINGS COULD GET UGLY, MY BUTT. YOU MEAN THE ENSUING COMMOTION WHEN THEY FIND OUT THERE'S A HOT STUD LIKE ME IN TOWN? WELL, I COULDN'T ASK FOR MORE.
TWINK
HAH-AAAH!
I GET IT!! IT'S JEAL-OUSY! YOU'RE JEAL-OUS!!
WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU..!
WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST SAY SO? C'MON, LET'S BOTH GET NAKED!!
NOT SO... FAST!
I MEAN, HEY, GET YOUR FRIGGIN' HANDS OUTTA HERE..!

HELL!
MEN...
THEY'RE MEN ALRIGHT ...

MEEEEEEEEN!!!
メキメキ
UUUUUUUUUUH?!

EEEEK!
DAMNIT! WE'RE WEAPON-LESS!
LEFT 'EM ALL BEHIND!
WE'LL JUST DODGE OUR WAY OUT OF TROUBLE, THEN!!
EXACTLY-MEOW!
WELL, YEAH!
メキ
メキョ
メキッ
バキ
バキ
メキッ

THERE'S NO DODGING THAT THING!

AN ALL-FEMALE TOWN... TRICKING EVERYONE TO SNEAK MY WAY IN WAS GOOD ENOUGH, BUT...
TEETER
THE HERO AND HIS BAND DID A GOOD JOB OF GETTING THEM OUT OF THE WAY, I SEE...
THE PRINCE IS BUSY ELSEWHERE, AND HE WON'T BE INTERFERING.
WHERE IS CHRIS..?
CHRIS...
PERHAPS I MADE A MISTAKE?
NO. IT OUGHT TO BE HERE
...OF ALL THE GUARDS WHO WERE HERE A FEW MOMENTS AGO NOT A SINGLE ONE REMAINS...

IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG, BROTHER?
GOOD JOB GUESSING I WAS HERE

WHAT KIND OF OUTFIT IS THIS? CUTESY, AND ALL
CACKLE CACKLE
SNAP
UH... AH... YEAH
WHAT WAS THAT?
I MUST BE SEEING THINGS.. I GUESS.
SORRY FOR THE KNIFE THING
I WAS RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF INVENTING SOMETHING
COME NOW HAVE SOME COFFEE
SURE.
THERE'S NO MILK IN IT
ALRIGHT
BUMMER HOW DO I BREAK IT TO HIM..?
I MUST PERSUADE HIM TO LEAVE WITH ME. AND IT'S GAME OVER AS SOON AS THE GUARDS COME BACK.
THIS TOWN IS A MILITARY OUTPOST FOR MONSTERS AFTER ALL

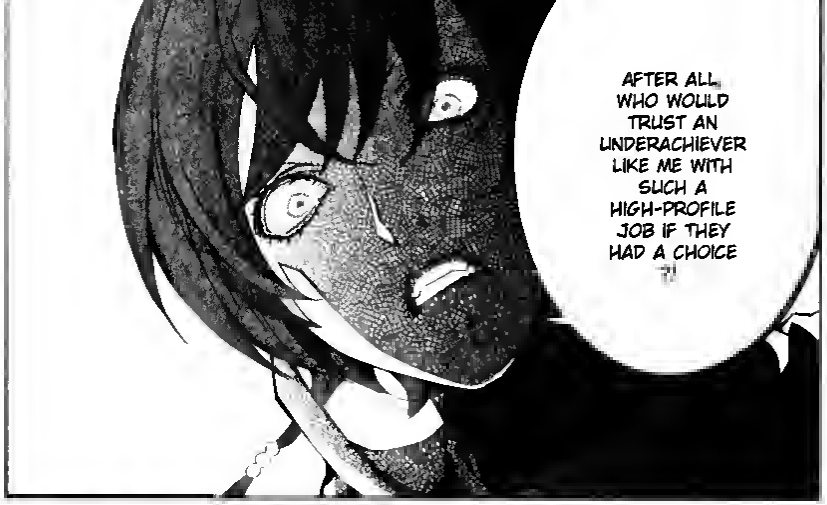
DEJECTED
I'M SORRY... YOU'RE NOT GONNA LIKE IT, I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN ...
SOB SOB
WELL, I DID HAVE SUGAR.
UH?!
SORRY, IT'S SUGARED
コト!!
YEEEESH !!
I'M TOTALLY WORTHLESS FOR NOT PUTTING IN ENOUGH SUGAR
HAH
SOB SOB...
UGH. THAT'S AWFUL
WH... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? COFFEE IS MEANT TO BE SUGARED! EVERYONE KNOWS THAT!!!
I SHIT ON SUGAR-LESS COFFEE !!
THIS REMINDS ME OF WHEN WE WERE KIDS...
WE WERE ALWAYS TOGETHER, THEN. WORRIED AS YOU WERE ABOUT ME...
CHRIS.
HEY, BROTHER ...
PANT—
PANT!
SMILE ♡

THAT'S MY POINT YOU'RE WORRYING TOO MUCH. I'M PERFECTLY FINE...
CHRIS !!
WHATEVER IS IT YOU'RE DOING IN THIS TOWN?
THERE'S NO TIME! TELL ME EVERY-THING!!
ALRIGHT ...

THE KING HAS REQUIRED THAT I BUILD AN INVENTION.
WHAT KIND OF INVENT-ION?
SOMETHING THAT'LL INCAPACITATE THE CASTE'S DEFENSE MECHANISM
I SEE
.....
CHRIS. WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SAY IS GONNA SOUND OUT THERE, BUT PLEASE PAY ATTENT-ION.
THE PERSON YOU BELIEVE TO BE THE KING IS...
...A MONSTER.
THE MONSTERS TRICKED YOU INTO DEVISING THAT INVENTION.
AND FOR THIS A VILLAGE ALREADY PAID THE PRICE.

IT WAS KEPT A SECRET FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC SO AS TO AVOID CONFUSION, BUT THE KING FOUND DEATH AT THE HANDS OF MONSTERS.
THE PRINCE IS THE ONE ACTUALLY RUNNING THINGS AT THE MOMENT.
.....
IT'S A HARD SELL, I KNOW. BUT TRUST ME ON THIS.
NOW COME ON. LET'S GET AWAY FROM HERE
CHRIS. THERE IS NO TIME. QUICKLY
FROM AS FAR AS I CAN REMEMBER, THERE WAS NOTHING YOU COULDN'T DO.
UH?
PEOPLE LOOKED UP TO YOU AS A GENIUS BECAUSE OF IT.
EVEN MOM AND DAD LIKED YOU BETTER THAN THEY DID ME, THE GOOD FOR NOTHING...
WHEN THEY GOT MAD, IT WAS ALWAYS AT ME
IT'S UN-FAIR
WHAT ARE YOU

NGH...
THE DRUG TAKES EFFECT AT LAST.
!?
TASTED AWFUL, DIDN'T IT? I WENT A BIT OVER-BOARD, I THINK.
ANE-STHETIC
TO TELL THE TRUTH, I ALREADY KNEW...
ABOUT MY CLIENT NOT BEING THE KING BUT A MONSTER, I MEAN.


AFTER ALL, WHO WOULD TRUST AN UNDERACHIEVER LIKE ME WITH SUCH A HIGH-PROFILE JOB IF THEY HAD A CHOICE ?!

THERE'S NOTHING LIKE IT! AAAHHHHA-HAHAHA-HAHA!!
ALL THOSE WHO MADE LIGHT OF ME WILL BE EX-TERMINATED !!
THAT'S WHY I DID IT!!
OUR PARENTS! YOU! NOT A SINGLE SOUL IN THE WORLD WOULD ACKNOWLEDGE MY WORTH!

CH... RI S...
COME ON. YOU CAME ALL THE WAY HERE TO LAUGH AT HOW INEFFECTUAL I WAS, DID YOU NOT?

YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY UNDER-STAND, CAN YOU?!
HOW HARD IT IS TO BE ORDINARY WHEN YOUR BROTHER'S A GENIUS..!!

YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT.
SO EN-GROSSED WITH YOURSELF YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST IDEA WHAT KIND OF PAIN I WAS GOING THROUGH.

ALWAYS...
ALL THIS TIME..!
ALWAYS,
ALWAYS ... !!

MY HATE FOR YOU I CULTIVATED WITH A LOT OF PATIENCE AND CARE...
SO DON'T THINK YOU'RE JUST GONNA DIE RIGHT HERE AND BE DONE WITH IT.
I'LL TAKE MY TIME TO TEAR YOUR BODY APART. KILL YOU NICE AND SLOW.

I NEVER, EVER STOPPED WISHING YOU'D JUST DIE!!

CHRIS
CHRIII-IIIIS!!!

!?
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? IS THAT WHAT YOU CALL A COUNTERATTACK?
YOU SHOULD HARDLY BE CONSCIOUS AT ALL...
JUST PASS OUT ALREADY. SAVE EVERY-ONE'S TIME.
LET GO OF ME! THIS IS GETTING CREEPY!!

RUN... AWAY...
ズッ...
CHRIS...
...UH..?

WHY...?
TO KEEP MY MOUTH SHUT?!!
THAT THING IS... A MONSTER?!
AND IT WAS GUNNING FOR ME..?
WHY DID YOU HAVE TO PROTECT ME?!!
IF YOU'D NOTICED THIS, WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST GET AWAY?!!
GET A...
AFTER ALL THE HORRIBLE THINGS I SAID TO YOU!!
WHO ASKED YOU TO SAVE ME?!
CH...
RI...S...
WAY...
ズルッ
HEY! YOU'LL LOSE CONSCIOUSNESS LATER!!

DAMN IT ..!!

A FRIEND OF MY BROTHER?!
PLEASE! DO SOMETHING..! HE NEEDS HELP!!
!

LIKE I...
...CARE !!
.....
I ALMOST DIED BY HIS FAULT!
JUST WHEN I THOUGHT I'D PUNCH HIM FOR IT, HE'S ALREADY K.O, AND WOUNDED, AT THAT! WHAT! THE! HELL?! EXPLAIN, NAAAAOW!!
DAMN!

LAKSHMI!! EKUKO!
FIRST THINGS FIRST! LET'S TAKE HIM SOMEWHERE ELSE AND PATCH HIM UP A BIT! THEN I'LL KNOCK HIM AROUND!!
LET'S GET GOING !!
WHAT'S WITH THAT?
RIGHT ON!!!

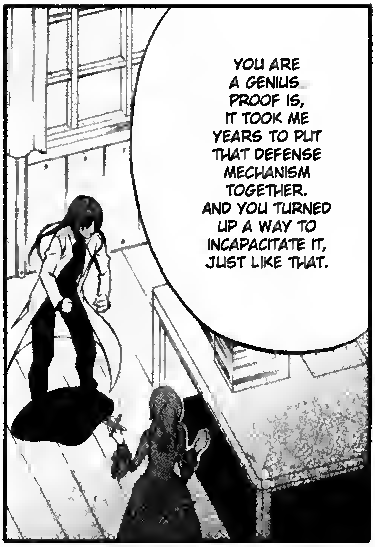
I THINK WE'VE FELD FAR ENOUGH. SHOULD BE ALRIGHT NOW.
CHRIS..
JUST HOW MANY PEOPLE'S LIVES DID YOU RISK RIGHT HERE? TO HELP OUT THE GUY WHO TRIED TO KILL YOU, NO LESS!!
IT'S NOT LIKE A LOSER'S LIFE IS WORTH ALL THAT MUCH, IS IT?!
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?!
WHOA?!
YOU FRIG-GIN'..!
RENE!

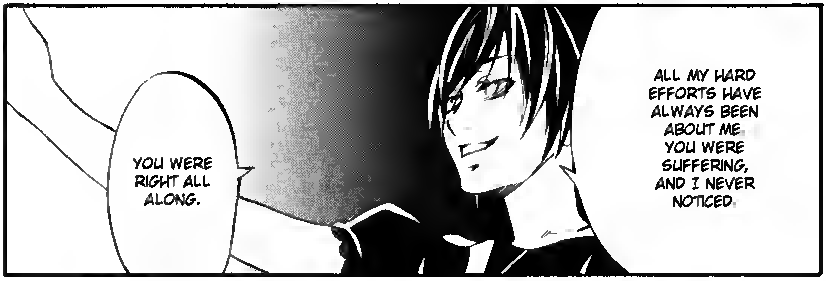
CHRIS THERE ARE PLENTY OF THINGS I HAVE KEPT FROM YOU. I GUESS I CAN TELL YOU NOW.
I SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU EVER SINCE MOM AND DAD PASSED AWAY, ACTUALLY.
YOU ARE NO LOSER..
WE JUST MISSED OUR CHANCE TO GET MAD
WE AREN'T BLOOD SIBLINGS.
WHY DID YOU WAIT SO LONG TO TELL ME THIS..?!!
SO NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRIED, I NEVER HAD A CHANCE, THAT'S IT..?!
MOM AND DAD, THE INVENTORS AREN'T MY PARENTS ?!
...UH...

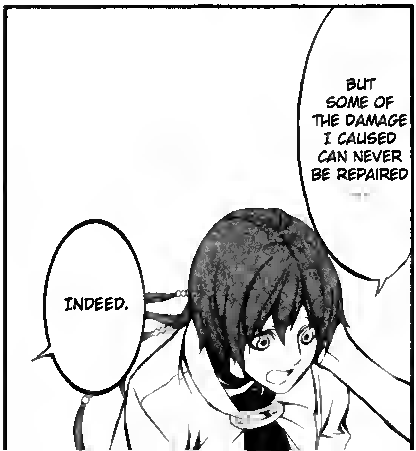
I'M THE ONE WHO ISN'T RELATED TO THEM.
YOU'RE WRONG...
YOUR PARENTS FOUND ME AND PICKED ME UP.
MY PARENTS DIED WHEN I WAS A CHILD.
NOW I HAD A MOM. AND A DAD. AND YOU... NOW I COULD TASTE THE WARMTH OF HAVING A REAL FAMILY.
I WAS HAPPY LIKE YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE.

AT THE SAME TIME, I WORKED DESPERATELY TO BE ACKNOWLEDGED AS THE WORTHY SON OF THE COUPLE WHO WORKED FOR THE KING
I WAS SO HAPPY.
.....
AND TO KEEP UP MY RESULTS, I HAD TO KEEP WORKING. IT WOULDN'T HAVE WORKED OUT SO WELL OTHERWISE
.....
RENE THE GENIUS? NOT EXACTLY.
THAT'S WHY I FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE MOM AND DAD LIKED ME ANY BETTER THAN THEY DID YOU.
ON THE CONTRARY, I COULDN'T HELP BUT RESENT ALL THE UNBRIDLED ATTENTION YOU WERE PRIVY TO.
I DIDN'T GET SCOLDED QUITE AS MUCH, BUT IT WOULD'VE BEEN ODD TO PAY SO MUCH ATTENTION TO A STRANGER LIKE ME

YOU COULD PROBABLY CREATE AN EVEN BETTER DEFENSE MECHANISM THAN MY OWN. COME TO THE CASTLE.
...BUT I TRIED TO KILL YOU...


YOU ARE A GENIUS. PROOF IS, IT TOOK ME YEARS TO PUT THAT DEFENSE MECHANISM TOGETHER. AND YOU TURNED UP A WAY TO INCAPACITATE IT, JUST LIKE THAT.


ALL MY HARD EFFORTS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN ABOUT ME. YOU WERE SUFFERING, AND I NEVER NOTICED.
YOU WERE RIGHT ALL ALONG.


BUT SOME OF THE DAMAGE I CAUSED CAN NEVER BE REPAIRED.
INDEED.

I'VE CAUSED YOU MUCH TROUBLE.
FORGIVE ME.

YOUR BROTHER WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF HIS ACTIONS. THAT SORT OF THING IS HARD TO OVERLOOK
WE CAN'T POSSIBLY INVITE YOU TO THE CASTLE WHEN DEATH PENALTY MIGHT AWAIT YOU.
I'D HATE TO SEE DECISIONS BEING TAKEN WITHOUT MY CONSENT.
PRINCE, THIS IS IN LITTER BAD TASTE.
THEREFORE, CHRISTOPHER CHEVALIER. HERE ARE MY ORDERS...
.....
UNTIL YOU SUCCEED, YOU'LL BE UNDER THE THREAT OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT. YOUR BROTHER AS WELL, FOR AIDING YOUR ESCAPE.
UH...
YOUR BROTHER AND YOURSELF WILL CREATE A DEFENSE MECHANISM STRONG ENOUGH TO OVERPOWER THE INCAPACITATING SYSTEM, THAT YOU MAY ATONE FOR YOUR CRIMES.
ME TOO...?
TALK ABOUT HARSH
OF COURSE
MEOW
THIS IS HORRIBLE

COMING HERE WITHOUT CROW NOTICING WAS A SCARY EXPERIENCE...
PRINCE... DID YOU SUSPECT THAT RENE HAD PROBLEMS... AND CAME HERE BECAUSE OF IT?
I'VE BEEN WONDERING WHAT WAS GOING ON WHEN I SAW YOU COME OUT OF THAT PEACH DRESSED UP AS A GIRL
NO TIME FOR TALKING THAT DEFENSE MECHANISM'S NOT GOING TO BUILD ITSELF.
WHICH IS MORE OR LESS WHAT RENE'S PRATTLING WAS ALL ABOUT ANYWAY LEMME TRAIN UP A BIT MAKE USE OF MY ROYAL AUTHORITAH
BUT ABOUT THE SENTENCE...
IDIOT... YOU ARE AN IDIOT...
WELL, THEN WILL YOU BE SO KIND AS TO SAVE MY LIFE?
...BUT THIS MUCH I CAN TELL...
I MAY HAVE FAILED TO NOTICE YOUR PAIN...
YOU ARE FUNDAMENTALLY A NICE GUY...

HEY THERE.
SURELY HE AVOIDED TELLING US ANYTHING...
...TO COVER UP THAT HE WAS HELPING YOU OUT.
SEE, IN ORDER TO SAVE YOU RENE USED ME AS A TOOL
AND I'M PISSED ABOUT IT.
YOU BROTHERS ARE ALIKE.
YOU CARE SO MUCH OF THE OTHER GUY, YOU KEEP EVEN THE IMPORTANT DETAILS UNDER WRAPS.

AND YOU LOVE HIM TOO, RIGHT?
POINT IS, HE LOVES YOU.
YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG
...NO
I TOOK SOME DISPOSITIONS. I HAVE PLENTY OF TIME
YOU HAVE NOWHERE TO RUN TO. UNLESS YOU FEEL LIKE GOING BACK TO TOWN.
HEY, PAL. DON'T GO RUNAWAY ON US

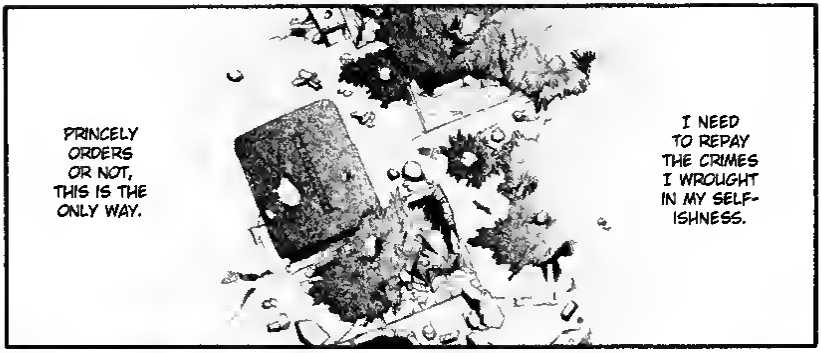
……
COME TO THE CASTLE …
HOW MUCH HAVE I YEARNED TO HEAR THESE WORDS?

ALWAYS THE FIRST…
…WHEN IT CAME TO ACK-NOWLEDGING ME.

TO THINK I'D HEAR THEM FROM THE BROTHER I HATED SO MUCH.
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN THIS WAY…

DESPITE THIS, I DECLARED MYSELF TO BE WITHOUT TALENT...
BORE UNDUE RESENTMENT WITHOUT MAKING ANY EFFORT CONTENT WITH MY OWN STAGNATION
SINKING...
AND YOU LOVE HIM TOO, RIGHT?
...FURTHER AND FURTHER...
INTO DARKNESS...

YES.
I KNEW OF MY BROTHER'S HARD WORK AND I DIDN'T WANT TO CAUSE HIM TROUBLE, SO I BURIED IT DEEP WITHIN.
BUT I DO LOVE HIM SO MUCH
SO GREAT WAS MY ADMIRATION I WAS FURIOUS AT MYSELF FOR NOT LIVING UP TO IT.


PRINCELY ORDERS OR NOT, THIS IS THE ONLY WAY.
I NEED TO REPAY THE CRIMES I WROUGHT IN MY SELF-ISHNESS.

THIS IS WHERE I MUST BE
THE CASTLE...

FROM NOW ON, I WILL DEDICATE MY LIFE...
...TO ALL THE PEOPLE I'VE HURT SO FAR. TO THOSE WHOSE LIVES I CAN SAVE
TO MY BROTHER

WELL, I CAN'T HAVE THAT.

WHA...

I UNDER-STAND... HE'S TAKING CONTROL OF MY BRAIN...
50 %...
75 %
85 %...
THIS IS... HOW HIS POWER WORKS...
95 %...

NOW YOU CAN NO LONGER MOVE UNDER YOUR OWN POWER
YOU ARE UNDER MY CONTROL.
ゴゴゴ
NOW GO KILL RENE
……
ニヤ
HAHAHA
WHA...
HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE 100% UNDER CONTROL....
100%!!!
I AM S.
I SEE... SO THOSE PEOPLE WHO CHECKED UP ON ME IN TURN WERE UNDER HIS CONTROL....
YOU CAN CALL ME... S.
IT WAS HIM...
HE WAS THE REAL ONE...!!!
98%...
……99%!
AND WHEN HE'S DONE CONTROLLING SOMEONE...
...THEY ARE NO LONGER OF USE

ドッ
WHA...
HU-MPH.
THINGS WON'T BE GOING YOUR WAY. I WON'T ALLOW IT.
TOO BAD...
...FOR... YOU.

FOOL.
AND THIS IS YOUR IDEA OF WINNING?
I REALLY HAD SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO DO.
UUUH... I CAN'T MOVE A MUSCLE
BUT THAT WAS THE ABSOLUTE BEST I COULD DO.
...BUT IN THE END, DID I AT LEAST TAKE A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION..?
A LITTLE BIT CLOSER. COME ON...
I'VE BEEN A POOR EXCUSE FOR A LITTLE BROTHER...

EEHEEHEE
WHAT?
I'M YOUR BIG BROTHER AND YOU, MY YOUNGER BROTHER
YEAH, BIG DISCOVERY
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?
THAT MEANS I'M NOT ALONE, AND I LOVE IT.
I HAVE A BROTHER..
ENOUGH WITH THE POINTLESS CHATTER IT SOUNDS PLAIN WRONG.
EEHEEHEE-HEEHEEHEE
YOU'D ALWAYS STICK TO ME LIKE GLUE.

SURELY YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANY... ALWAYS BUSY STUDYING, AND ALL...
YOU COULD HAVE SPENT AT LEAST SOME OF THAT TIME WITH FRIENDS.
YOU NEED TO MAKE MORE FRIENDS, OKAY?
YOU ALWAYS START OUT WITH INTIMIDATION ..
WHY GO FOR THE "I WILL TAKE NO CRAP" FACE FOR THE GET-GO?
I SEE... IT'S TOO LATE TO TELL YOU ALL THIS, BY NOW.
WHAT'S TAKING CHRIS SO LONG?
IF ONLY WE'D TALKED MORE...
SURELY WE WOULDN'T HAVE GROWN SO FAR APART IF WE HAD...

SUCH A SIMPLE THING TO DO. WHY DIDN'T WE?
PERHAPS WE COULDN'T.
RIGHT..?
BROTHER..
WHAT'S THE MATTER, RENE..?
NOTHING
JUST MY IMAGINATION...

HE WASN'T COMING BACK, SO WE WENT LOOKING FOR HIM...
WHOEVER WAS AFTER HIM KILLED HIM OFF...?
NO. THE MONSTER DID HURT HIM, BUT THE STAB WOUND THAT CAUSED HIS DEATH WAS SELF-INFLICTED.
THESE WOUNDS LOOK FAMILIAR...
...BUT WHY DO THAT TO HIMSELF...?
...KAGAMI WAS HERE?!

SHEYLA ANY INFOR-MATION?
A MONSTER TRIED TO TAKE CONTROL OF HIM, PRESUMABLY.
THEN HE WOULD'VE BEEN ORDERED TO KILL US, AND HE TOOK HIS OWN LIFE SO HE WOULDN'T HAVE TO DO IT...
HE PROTECTED US... AT THE COST OF HIS OWN LIFE

!?

WHATEVER THE CASE, RENE BETTER NOT FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED HE...

AAAA

CHRIS... WAKE UP...
PLEASE WAKE UP I BEG OF YOU..!!
HATE ME IF YOU MUST, I DON'T CARE... YOU CAN HAVE EVERYTHING, EVEN MY LIFE!!
SO PLEASE! PLEASE !!
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO LIVE, NOW..?!

RENE..?!
A KNIFE. AND YOU'RE REALLY EXPECT THAT LITTLE THING IS GONNA KILL YOU?
IF YOU WANNA DIE SO BADLY, I CAN AC-COMMODATE YOU.

ANY TIME.
CHRIS
...CHRIS
...CH
RI...S
RENE WAS CRYING SO MUCH WE STARTED WONDERING IF HE'D EVER RECOVER
HERO-DONO EVERY-ONE
THIS WAY, PLEASE
SHEYLA-SAN, KINDLY REMAIN BY RENE'S SIDE

HERO-DONO...
WE KNOW WHERE THE DEMON LORD IS.
MUCH LIKE OURSELVES, THEY HAVE PUT UP A BARRIER...
...AND THEY'VE SET UP SHOP IN A CASTLE, IN SOME INSCRUTABLE PLACE
UH...
WE ALSO FOUND OUT THE REASON WHY SHE'S BEEN ESCAPING US SO FAR, DESPITE OUR BEST EFFORTS
THIS IS WHAT WE'VE LEARNED FROM THE MONSTERS WE NOW COUNT AMONG OUR FRIENDS
A SECRET ROUTE
AT LAST I CAN TRULY BELIEVE IN A WORLD OF HARMONY
WHERE HUMANS AND MONSTERS CAN ALL LIVE TOGETHER.

SORRY IT TOOK US SO LONG.
NO TROUBLE AT ALL. WE HAVEN'T BEEN PARTICULARLY SUCCESSFUL EITHER...
SO... WHERE WOULD THAT BE?
.....
HERO-DONO.
RIGHT NEXT TO YOUR HOMETOWN.

I WANTED TO TAKE A FEW STEPS TOWARDS RESOLVING THIS ISSUE FIRST, BUT NOW THINGS ARE DIFFERENT.
THE CASTLE'S DEFENSE MECHANISM IS CURRENTLY OUT OF ORDER. THE SITUATION IS MUCH THE SAME.
CHRIS' DEATH HAS LEFT RENE ALMOST COMPLETELY UNFIT FOR SERVICE
.....
IT PAINS ME TO SAY THIS, BUT WE CAN'T AFFORD TO STRIKE AT THE DEMON LORD AT THE MOMENT.
WHICH IS PRECISELY WHY...

WE'LL DO IT NOW.
AN ALL-OUT OFFENSIVE.
!!?
!
!!
!?
THE DEMON LORD CAN'T POSSIBLY BE EXPECTING AN ATTACK RIGHT NOW.
WE'LL USE THAT AGAINST HER.

IT'S A TALL ORDER, AND THE STAKES ARE HIGH. HERO-DONO, ARE YOU IN?
.....
I'M IN.
I'LL SEND REINFORCEMENTS TO YOUR VILLAGE AS SOON AS I'M BACK TO THE CASTLE

PLEASE GO MEET THEM THERE.

# Story.15 魔王の素質

MOM.
HERE. FINISH IT BEFORE IT GETS COLD.
DAD...
EXA... WELCOME BACK.
あ?
THIS BLISSFUL ATMOSPHERE BRINGS BACK MEMORIES.
ぽにっろ
!?

DAD..!!
MOM..!!!
WAI...
THIS WAY.
HATE...
PAIN...
COLD FEELINGS.
...ALONE...

...IT'S SO WARM...
AAAH. A HAND...
YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE IN PAIN...
HOS
AH... YEAH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
222
222
GHH

YOU OKAY?
I'LL WALK AROUND FOR A BIT. WAKE MYSELF UP.
I SEE. SO THAT OH-SO-WARM HAND WAS HERS.
I GUESS IT'S NOT SURPRISING FOR ME TO HAVE THOSE STRANGE DREAMS.
I'M BACK TO MY HOMETOWN, AFTER ALL...

HERO-SAMA
I RECKONED I'D GIVE YOU THIS JUST IN CASE
ROCCI. SO YOU'RE AWAKE TOO?
WHAT IS IT..?
I ADMINISTERED ONE OF THOSE TO SHEYLA BEFORE
IT'S MY BLOOD.
ONE DOSE OF IT WILL CURE YOU.
BUT TAKEN A SECOND TIME, IT WILL ACT AS A REJECTION-INDUCING POISON.
!?
IF SHE EVER BETRAYS US...
USE IT...

THERE'S THAT OMINOUS AIR ABOUT HER SOMETIMES, THAT SHE CAN'T QUITE DISSIMULATE.
WHENEVER SHE'S LIKE THAT, SHE DEFINITELY HAS THE MAKINGS OF A DEMON LORD.
.....
.....
BUT THINGS WERE PROBABLY NOT ALWAYS LIKE THAT.
SHE'S MELLOWED OUT UNDER YOUR INFLUENCE, APPARENTLY.
WHAT DID SHE DO?
AND WHAT DID SHE SAY?
REMEMBER.
DON'T KILL, EVER?
ドクン
DON'T YOU EVER FEEL LIKE STAMPING OUT ALL THOSE WHO STAND IN YOUR WAY?
BUT THINGS ARE SO MUCH EASIER THAT WAY.

SEEING A LIVING THING DIE IS PAINFUL...
...PAINFUL?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
AND THEN...
SHE TRIED TO KILL ME...
I'VE BEEN SUSPECTING HER OF BEING THE DEMON LORD...
...YET I STILL HAVEN'T ASKED HER A THING.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET THAT SHE WAS PROBABLY BEHIND THE ONES WHO DESTROYED THIS VILLAGE.
BECAUSE I COULD TELL SHE HAD EVERYTHING TO MAKE A PERFECT DEMON LORD ..?
.....
FOR NOW IS NOT THE TIME FOR HESITATION
DON'T EVER FORGET THIS ONE REASON I GAVE YOU.

THE MOMENT IS CRUCIAL INDEED.
...THAT'S RIGHT.
THIS IS A FULL-SCALE ASSAULT AGAINST THE DEMON LORD
AND HERE I AM, HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS?
WHAT AM I AFRAID OF?
HELLO
THAT'D BE THE REIN-FORCE-MENTS
HEY YOU'RE RIGHT
OH...
WELCOME BACK
THE BIRD I SENT MY BROTHER IN ORDER TO TRACK THE PRINCE'S WHEREABOUTS HAS COME BACK, WHICH MUST MEAN THE PRINCE MADE IT TO THE CASTLE
MISTRESS
HM?
A LETTER. PRESUMABLY ABOUT THE ATTACK...

HEEEEY!
HELLO-OOOO!!
AH. NOW THEY'VE NOTICED
.....?
.....?

W... WE CAN'T, ROCCI-CHAN! THIS IS TOO SUDDEN! I MUST GET IN THE MOOD FIRST!
EEK
SMOOCH SMOOCH
YOU IDIOT! THESE AREN'T THE REIN-FORCEMENTS! TAKE A GOOD LOOK!
LET GO OF ME!

WHAT'S GOING ON, HERE?!
WHOA!
WE'VE FAILED. THE DEMON LORD'S SIDE FOUND OUT ABOUT THE ATTACK.
CASTLE OBSIDIAS, WHERE THE PRINCE CURRENTLY IS, IS UNDER ASSAULT BY MONSTERS
THE CASTLE..?!
YES WHICH IS WHY THEY'RE ALSO COMING HERE. MY BROTHER EXPLAINED TO ALL TO ME
DOES THIS MEAN THERE IS A TRAITOR IN THE CASTLE..?
...PROBABLY, YES...
IT'S AN ARMY OF MONSTERS.
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, THEY'RE EVERY-WHERE
SO MANY OF THEM...
THAT WAS PRETTY WELL THOUGHT-OUT
WE'VE GOT NOWHERE LEFT TO GO! WHAT NOW?!!
THEY DON'T PLAN ON LETTING A FLY ESCAPE UNNOTICED, IT SEEMS

WE'RE OUT OF OPTIONS.
I SAY WE ATTACK...
IF YOU COULD HAVE SEEN YOUR FACE.
HAH
YEAH, I KNOW. WE WON'T BE HURTING ANYONE... THAT'S IT?

DO YOU THINK I'M STUPID OR SOMETHING?
FLAP FLAP
I GOT IT ALREADY. SOME TIME PAST THE FIRST DOZEN TIMES.
AH...
A KNIFE AND YOU REALLY EXPECT THAT LITTLE THING IS GONNA KILL YOU?
IF YOU WANNA DIE SO BADLY, I CAN ACCOMMODATE YOU.
CHRIS
ANY TIME
CHRIS

IS THAT WHAT HE WANTS?
IS YOUR CURRENT STATE...
...WHAT YOU WOULD HAVE WISHED FOR HIM?
WHATEVER IT IS YOU WANTED FOR HIM, DO IT YOURSELF...
LIVE ON..!!

YOUR HAND... LET ME HEAL IT.
HEY.
I'M FINE.
YOU'RE BLEEDING...
THIS PAIN IS FILLING UP MY MIND.
FOR THE PAIN ..

...IS SOMETHING THAT I MUST NEVER FORGET...
OVER THERE!!
WHAT WAS THAT NOISE..?
A MOUNTAIN ..?
DID WE MISS IT EARLIER SOME-HOW..?

AN ANT-LION !!
WATER..?
WHAT IS THIS ?
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE ?
WHOA!
IT...
IT... ISN'T...
WATER...
WHAT THE HECK IS THIS..?
CA... CAN'T MOVE...

.....
SWISH SWISH
HOW DO YOU LIKE IT..?
MMMH
THEY'RE ALL SLEEPING, NOW.
THIS SPELL'S GOT A WEAKNESS, IN THAT IT NEEDS TIME TO TAKE EFFECT.
BUT IT WENT SMOOTHLY THANKS TO SHEKA-CHAN'S LITTLE PLAN.
TO DO THIS SO EASILY... IMPRESSIVE...
WOOOW. ROCCI-TAN!
YOU TELL 'EM

COME ON. SOME ENEMIES ARE STILL REMAINING.
HAA..
WE SHOULD PROCEED QUICKLY.

NOW YOU PROBABLY WOULDN'T KILL ANYONE.
SO YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THE DEMON LORD.
I AM SUCH A FOOL...
SHEYLA, YOU DID SAY TERRIBLE THINGS IN THE BEGINNING.
BUT BACK THEN, YOU WERE IGNORANT.

I DON'T CARE WHO'S SUSPECTING HER, IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE SHEYLA I KNOW. AND IT'S MORE THAN ENOUGH.
I BELIEVE IN HER.
SHE'S TRYING TO KILL ME
WRONG
SHEYLA BEING THE DEMON LORD IS NOT COMPLETELY OUT OF THE REALM OF POSSIBILITY
WRONG
WRONG !!
SHE DEFINITELY HAS THE MAKINGS OF A DEMON LORD
YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY BE THE DEMON LORD.
WHY, THEN?
BECAUSE I'M CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY THAT SHE KILLED MY PARENTS?
WHY AM I SO AFRAID?!
WHY CAN'T I SHAKE OFF THAT UNEASY FEELING?

THE DAY I FIND OUT SHE'S THE DEMON LORD...
I'LL HAVE TO KILL HER MYSELF!!!!
THAT'S WHY I CAN'T ASK HER.
I'M AFRAID...
I'M SO SCARED THAT I LIE TO MYSELF.
WISHING HER NOT TO BE THE DEMON LORD.
...BUT NO MORE...
IT'S NO USE.

WAS IT YOU?
...THE HAND THAT MURDERED MY MOTHER...
BACK THEN...
...THE ONE WHO SAT THERE...
WHEN MY VILLAGE WAS WIPED OUT...
...IS IT THE SAME WARM HAND OF YOURS?!
TELL ME IT'S ALL A LIE!!
PLEASE.
...UH!!

UH?!
WE'RE IN TROUBLE! THERE'S STILL ONE MONSTER LEFT!!
THE MAGIC WON'T WORK
THIS ONE IS QUITE POWERFUL COMPARED TO THE OTHER GUYS.
TAKING HIM DOWN IS GONNA TAKE SOME TIME
ROCCI?! WAIT, THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH THIS!
I'LL TAKE HIM.
HEH HEH HEH.
WHAT'S SO FUNNY ?
CAN YOU STILL KILL ME IF I DO THIS?

DOES THIS MEAN THERE'S A TRAITOR IN THE CASTLE?
BIG...
...BROTHER..?!

GOTCHA ..!!

...IF YOU DO WHAT?
HIC...
ROCCI!! STOP...

HEY!
JUST AS I THOUGHT...
A SHAPE-SHIFTED MONSTER, EH?
YOU MIGHT HAVE KNOWN IT WASN'T CROW, BUT YOU CAN'T JUST GO FOR THE KILL IN THE FIRST...
HERO-SAMA!!
ROCCI!!
SO WE DON'T EXACTLY HAVE ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD!!
THE GENERAL COULDN'T MAKE IT HERE, BUT THE MONSTERS SHOULD BE LESS NUMEROUS AS WELL, ON ACCOUNT OF THE TROOPS THEY SENT TO THE CASTLE!
BACK IN THE CASTLE, THE PRINCE AND EVERYONE ELSE ARE FIGHTING! ARE YOU WILLING TO LET THEIR EFFORTS GO TO WASTE?!
IF WE DALLY HERE THE DEMON LORD WILL MOVE SOMEWHERE ELSE!

...TO CUT DOWN ANY AND ALL THAT STANDS BETWEEN US AND OUR GOAL!!
FROM HERE ON OUT, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, I'M READY...
BECAUSE AS OF NOW, THE FATE OF THE WORLD...
...RESTS ENTIRELY UPON YOUR SHOULDERS !!
GLITTERING
HAH
.....
...I WAS WRONG! ROCCI HAD NO IDEA IF IT WAS REALLY CROW. SHE HAD NO WAY TO KNOW.
EVEN THEN...
EVEN IF IT MEANT STRIKING AT HER BROTHER ...

WE'RE ALL AFRAID. EVERYONE IS.
BUT SOMETIMES, WE MUST SET ASIDE EVERYTHING, INCLUDING OUR FEELINGS.
THAT'S WHAT ROCCI MEANT TO TELL ME.
AS FOR SHEYLA...
I'LL HAVE TO...

# Story.16 嘘吐きの涙

EVENTUALLY, THE TIME WILL COME WHEN I'LL HAVE TO TELL THE TRUTH.
SOMETIME! SOON!...
GUARDS
THE SECRET PASSAGE WE'VE BEEN TOLD ABOUT IS NOT SO SECRET ANYMORE, IT SEEMS.
HERO-SAMA, DO WE BREAK THROUGH?
.....
EVEN WITH THEIR NUMBERS SHORT OF THOSE THEY SENT TO ATTACK THE CASTLE, STILL LOOKS LIKE THERE'S A TON OF THEM IN THERE.
COULD WE REALLY MAKE IT ALL THE WAY TO THE DEMON LORD, I WONDER.
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO PRESS FORWARD, EITHER WAY
YEAH, YEAH, I KNOW THAT'S STILL A TOUGH CALL.
I WISH THERE WAS AN ALTERNATE ROUTE...

WHY, IF THAT'S ALL IT TAKES TO MAKE YOU HAPPY, WE CAN GO THAT WAY.
WAIT A MINUTE! ...CAN WE ENTER THE DEMON LORD'S CASTLE FROM THERE?
PROB-ABLY, YEAH.
AND HOW DO YOU KNOW?
I FOUND IT BY CHANCE A LONG TIME AGO WHEN I WAS PLAYING IN THIS AREA.
I HAD NO IDEA IT LEAD INSIDE THE DEMON LORD'S CASTLE, BACK THEN
BUT THE PLACE IS CHOCK-FULL WITH TRAPS, SO I AM PRETTY SURE.
.....
OH, UH, SORRY IF I DO TURN OUT TO BE WRONG-MEOW
NYAHAHAHA!

THAT'S A BALD-FACED LIE. OR DOES IT SEEM THAT WAY BECAUSE I'M ALREADY SUSPICIOUS—?
...GOTTA SAY...
NO MONSTERS. NOTHING THAT EVEN REMOTELY LOOKS LIKE A TRAP.
PRETTY QUIET, IF YOU ASK ME!
AH. LAKSHRI, I WOULDN'T TAKE ANOTHER STEP IN THAT DIRECTION IF I WERE YOU!
HUH?!
LOOK...

IF YOU HAD ADVANCED CARELESSLY, YOU WOULD HAVE ENDED UP COMPLETELY PULVERIZED.
THERE WE ARE.

THE ENTRANCE TO THE DEMON LORD'S CASTLE
WOOOW
SHE'S RIGHT... AND APPARENTLY THE PLACE IS NOT GUARDED.
OF COURSE CONSIDERING THE RIDICULOUS NUMBER OF TRAPS, NO ONE COULD BE REASONABLY EXPECTED TO MAKE IT HERE
A FLOWER GARDEN... AND A VERY WELL-KEPT ONE, AT THAT
WHY HERE OF ALL PLACES ..?
DID THE DEMON LORD CULT-IVATE IT?
BEATS MEOW .. I HAVE NO IDEA

AND YOU'RE CALLING ME OUT WHY?!!
WATCH IT, ANGELICA !!
CAREFUL THE GROUND IS FRAGILE, GOTTA KEEP YOURSELF IN CHECK OR YOU'LL END UP STRAIGHT INTO THE MAGMA
AH YEAH?!
AYE. WE'RE STANDING ON TOP OF A VOLCANO.
IT'S A BIT HOT IN HERE, ISN'T IT?
HOW COULD YOU POSSIBLY KNOW THIS MUCH..?
I DON'T BUY IT.
NYAHAHA
JUST COINCI-DENCE-MEOW
YOU KNOW WAY TOO MUCH AND MERE COINCIDENCE IS NOT ENOUGH TO EXPLAIN IT
THE FACT THAT YOU KNOW SUCH THINGS, ISN'T IT BECAUSE YOU
NOT TO MENTION THE COUNTLESS TRAPS THEREIN.
A SECRET PASSAGE NO ONE ELSE KNOWS ABOUT.

ドクン
ドクン
BECAUSE YOU ..
ドクン!
BECAUSE YOU ARE THE DEMON LORD..?

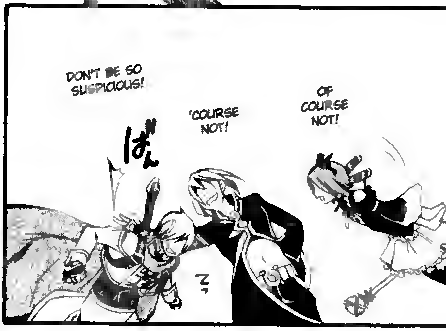
WH... WHAT ?!
EXA, WHAT POSS-ESSED YOU?!!
.....
SO THE HERO'S FOUND OUT...
NO. HE MUST HAVE KNOWN FOR SOME TIME.
NOW THERE'S NO WAY OUT OF IT.
THE TIME HAS COME TO LAY BARE THE TRUTH.
I HAVE TO TELL HIM.
I HAVE TO TELL HIM.
YOU'RE WRONG-MEOW.

WHAT A CRAZY THING TO SAY. PUTTING ON THAT SCARY FACE, AND ALL.
I'M JUST SOME WEAKLING MONSTER, WHY WOULD YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT- MEOW?
SH... SHE'S RIGHT, EXA! I ALMOST HAD A HEART ATTACK! WHAT KIND OF QUESTION WAS THAT?!
I REALLY WASN'T EXPECTING THAT.
SHEYLA. THIS IS NOT A LAUGHING MATTER.
ARE YOU TELLING THE TRUTH?
OF COURSE- MEOW.
SIGH
THAT'S RIGHT. YOU WOULDN'T BE THE DEMON LORD...

I'M REALLY GLAD YOU WEREN'T THE DEMON LORD.

WHY DID I LIE..?

SERIOUSLY... I'M DIS-APPOINTED IN YOU.


DON'T BE SO SUSPICIOUS!
'COURSE NOT!
OF COURSE NOT!
ばん

DEMON LORD SHEYLA-SAMA.
...KA...
GA...MI...
TO TELL THEM OF THIS PLACE.
I NEVER THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE SUCH A FOOL.
NOW THAT YOU'VE COME THIS FAR, THERE IS NO MORE NEED FOR SECRETS, IS THERE..?
UNLESS...

...YOU STILL WISH TO KEEP UP YOUR FOOLISH MASQUERADE OF FRIENDSHIP WITH THAT BUNCH.
DEMON LORD WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT ONE?!! HE JUST COMES OUT OF NOWHERE SHEYLA-CHAN IS JUST DONE SAYING SHE WASN'T THE DEMON LORD!!
I GET IT! MUST BE AN ATTEMPT AT SOWING CONFUSION AMONG OUR RANKS!!
WE'RE NOT GONNA FALL FOR THAT!
SHEYLA SAID SHE WASN'T, AND I BELIEVE HER
.....
.....
.....

!!?
I AM NOT THE DEMON LORD.
OH NO..? REALLY..?
EVEN... NOW, YOU'RE ...

SHEYLA-SAMA, THIS IS THAT DRAGON YOU USED TO CARE A GREAT DEAL ABOUT.
A MUMMIFIED DRAGON..?!
...!?
NO WA... YOU... YOU KILLED IT?!
ドド
ドド
AAAAA
AAAH!!!
ドドド

WHOA?!
COLD!!
!?

!!?
GOTCHA !!
THE FRAGMENTS ARE REAS-SEMBLING...

IT CAME BACK TO LIFE?!
AND IT'S GROWN ANOTHER HEAD, AT THAT..?!
RIGHT ON!!
EVERYONE TO THE DOOR! RUN!!
WE'RE IN TROUBLE BIG TIME THERE'S NO DEFEATING IT
IS THAT THING IMMORTAL ?!
SHEYLA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! RUN!!
UH... YEAH.
SHEYLA ?!
I WAS WONDERING WHY I LIED...

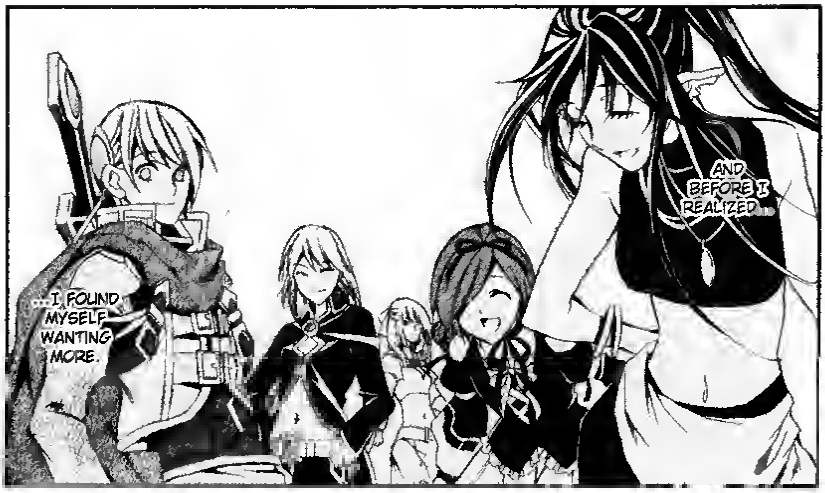
...AH, YES. THAT'S RIGHT.
I WANT MORE OF THIS WARMTH...
I DON'T WANNA LET IT GO.
THAT'S WHY... I ... LIED...
YOU WON'T GET AWAY!!
MOVE IT, MOVE IT, MOVE IT ..!

THE DEMON LORD AWAITS YOU FARTHER AHEAD! I'LL MANAGE WHAT I CAN HERE! YOU GUYS CONTINUE WITHOUT ME..!!
HOW COULD WE!! WE'RE NOT LEAVING YOU BEHIND, SHEYLA-CHAN!!
SHE'S RIGHT!! IF WE HAVE TO DEFEAT THAT CREEP, LET'S ALL WORK TOGETHER!
WHATEVER TRANSPIRES, THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU...
...TO BEAR THE BURDEN ALONE!!
STOP IT...
QUICKLY CANCEL YOUR MAGIC..!!
IF WE CATCH HIM OFF GUARD...
AN ATTACK...
I'M NOT WORTH IT...
STOP IT PLEASE.

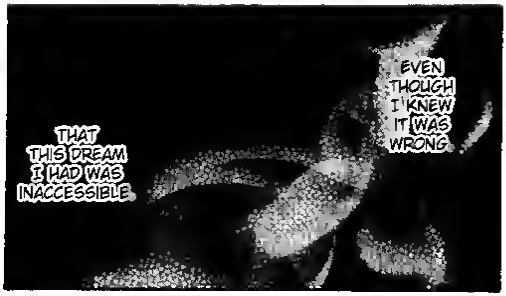
I'M NOT
WORTH IT
AT ALL...

WHAT'S THE MATTER, SHEYLA?!
ARE YOU HURT? DISPEL THE MAGIC!
WE'LL WORK OUT SOME-THING FROM THERE !!
SORRY, EVERYONE... SORRY FOR EVERYTHING ...
UH...
I CAN BE SUCH A GIRL...
GOING AS FAR AS SPOUTING LIES
FOR THE SAKE OF CATERING TO MY OWN DESIRES...
I WAS ONCE THE DEMON LORD.

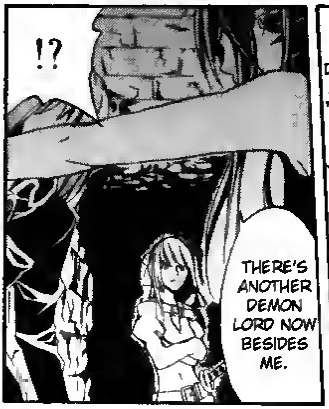
I DESTROYED MANY VILLAGES ...
...KILLING THE PEOPLE WHILE AT IT.
TRUTH BE TOLD, I WAS THE ONE YOU GUYS SHOULD BE KILLING.
WHAT KAGAMI... WHAT THAT MONSTER SAID WAS TRUE...
I'VE BEEN AFTER THE HERO'S LIFE ALL ALONG...
BUT...
...AT SOME POINT I FOUND MYSELF ENJOYING YOUR COMPANY.
FOR THE FIRST TIME I FELT FOR SOMEONE.
TO BE ABLE TO BE WITH THE HERO ...
...MADE ME HAPPY.


...I FOUND MYSELF WANTING MORE.
AND BEFORE I REALIZED...

BUT NOW... THAT'S ENOUGH.


EVEN THOUGH I KNEW IT WAS WRONG.
THAT THIS DREAM I HAD WAS INACCESSIBLE.

THERE WAS MORE THAN ONE..?!


!?
THERE'S ANOTHER DEMON LORD NOW BESIDES ME.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "ONCE"?
HOLD... YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT?! RIGHT?! COME ON, TELL ME YOU'RE JOKING!!

I'LL STAY HERE AND TAKE DOWN KAGAMI.
ODDS ARE...
...THERE'LL BE ONE LESS DEMON LORD IN THE WORLD.
!?
SO GO AHEAD AND TAKE OUT THE OTHER ONE...
...THANK YOU, EVERYONE.
THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING...

SHEYLA-CHAN!!
SHEYLA-CHAN...
SHEYLA-CHAN!
SHEYLA-CHAN!
ガラガラ…
……
WHAT NOW?
WHY DO YOU EVEN ASK? WE'LL CLEAR OFF THE RUBBLE AND HELP HER OUT!
DEMON LORD OR NOT
I DON'T CARE!!

SHE'S A DIFFERENT PERSON NOW.
AND SHE SAID IT WAS ALL A LIE, BUT...
...I CAN'T BELIEVE THE ASPECTS OF HER WE SAW AS SHE TRAVELED WITH US WERE FAKE AT ALL.
SHE COULD HAVE KILLED US OFF ANY TIME, BUT SHE NEVER DID. WHY?! SHE EVEN TOLD US ABOUT THAT PASSAGE...!
SHEYLA-CHAN MAY HAVE BEEN THE DEMON LORD AT SOME POINT, BUT...
...THE SHORT-FUSED SHEYLA-CHAN, THE ONE WHO FLIES OFF THE HANDLE EASILY, BUT IS ALSO KIND AND SINCERE THAT'S THE REAL HER.
I CAN'T POINT MY SWORD TOWARDS SOMEONE WHO USED TO BE A COMRADE!
I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO HATE HER!
YOU GUYS AGREE WITH ME... DON'T YOU..?!
.....
.....
FINE! I'LL GO RESCUE HER BY MYSELF!!
YOU'RE RIGHT. SHEYLA IS OUR FRIEND. LET'S GO HELP HER OUT.

YOU TOO, HERO-SAMA ..?!
JUST WHAT...
I'M GOING TOO
NOT SO FAST! YOU WOULD SAVE SOMEONE WHO JUST CALLED HERSELF THE DEMON LORD? YOU MUST BE OUT OF YOUR MINDS!!
EXA-SAMA ?!
IF THE TWO DEMON LORDS COOPERATE, WE MIGHT END UP ATTACKED SIMULTANEOUSLY ON TWO FRONTS.
I SHALL PUT AN END TO SHEYLA'S LIFE MYSELF.
AND EVEN IF IT'S YOU GUYS, IF YOU INTERFERE THERE'LL BE HELL TO PAY.

!?
ARE YOU EXHAUSTED ALREADY?
I STILL WANT MORE
THAT'S WHAT I WISHED FOR.
FOR ONE WHO HELD THE TITLE OF DEMON LORD, YOU ARE PATHETIC.
UGH !!
BUT THAT'S ENOUGH...
... BECAUSE YOU'VE GIVEN WARMTH SO GENEROUSLY TO THE LIAR THAT I AM...
IT'S ABOUT TIME I GAVE YOU A PROPER SEND-OFF.
THEREFORE IT'S ENOUGH ...

# Story.17 怒りの日

SHE KILLED MY FATHER...
SHE HAS DESTROYED COUNTLESS TOWNS AND VILLAGES, KILLING THE PEOPLE
SHE KILLED MY MOTHER.
HER CRIMES...
.. ARE FAR BEYOND REDEMPTION.

AND FOR THIS REASON, SHE MUST DIE...
EXA!!
EXA-SAMA!!
.....
.....
.....
EXA!! I WON'T LET YOU GO ANY FURTHER! NOT IF IT'S TO SEE YOU KILL SHEYLA!!
YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE...
HAH
EXA! GLAD TO SEE YOU'VE COME A...

I'LL JUST HAVE TO KILL YOU GUYS OFF. THEN...
...AND PASS OVER YOUR DEAD COLD BODIES...
EXA ..?!
COUGH COUGH

VOLCANIC GASES...
TWITCH
THE GROUND MUST HAVE CRACKS IN IT, THEN..!
WHAT A WRETCHED COUNTENANCE...
TO THINK YOU WERE BORN A DEMON LORD...
KAGAMI

I WASN T BORN THAT WAY!!
YOU GROOMED ME SO THAT I MIGHT FILL THIS POSITION !!
DO YOU REMEM- BER THESE FLOWERS ?
.... ?
THE FIRST TIME WE MET
THERE WERE PLENTY OF THOSE BLOOMING ALL ROUND.
AND WHEN YOUR PARENTS WERE KILLED BY HUMANS, AND YOU WENT MISSING...
...I SEARCHED FOR YOU EVERYWHERE, AS IF MY LIFE DEPENDED ON IT.
I EVENTUALLY FOUND YOU, AND FROM THAT MOMENT ON...
...I'VE BEEN TAKING CARE OF YOU.
I PLANTED THESE FLOWERS HERE BACK THEN...
...AS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF MY RESOLUTION.

I WOULD HONOR THE WISHES OF YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER...
...AND RAISE YOU INTO A PERFECT DEMON LORD.
SHEY-LA-SAMA
I HAVE LITTLE PATIENCE FOR SUCH PLEASANTRIES
ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT
YOU STICK-IN-THE-MUD!
ARE THOSE EDIBLE?
MOTHER... AND FATHER..?
I DON'T EXPECT YOU TO REMEMBER. THEY DIED WHEN YOU WERE STILL VERY YOUNG.
...HUH..
IS THAT SO..?
TO THINK THAT MY MOTHER AND FATHER WISHED FOR THIS...
.....

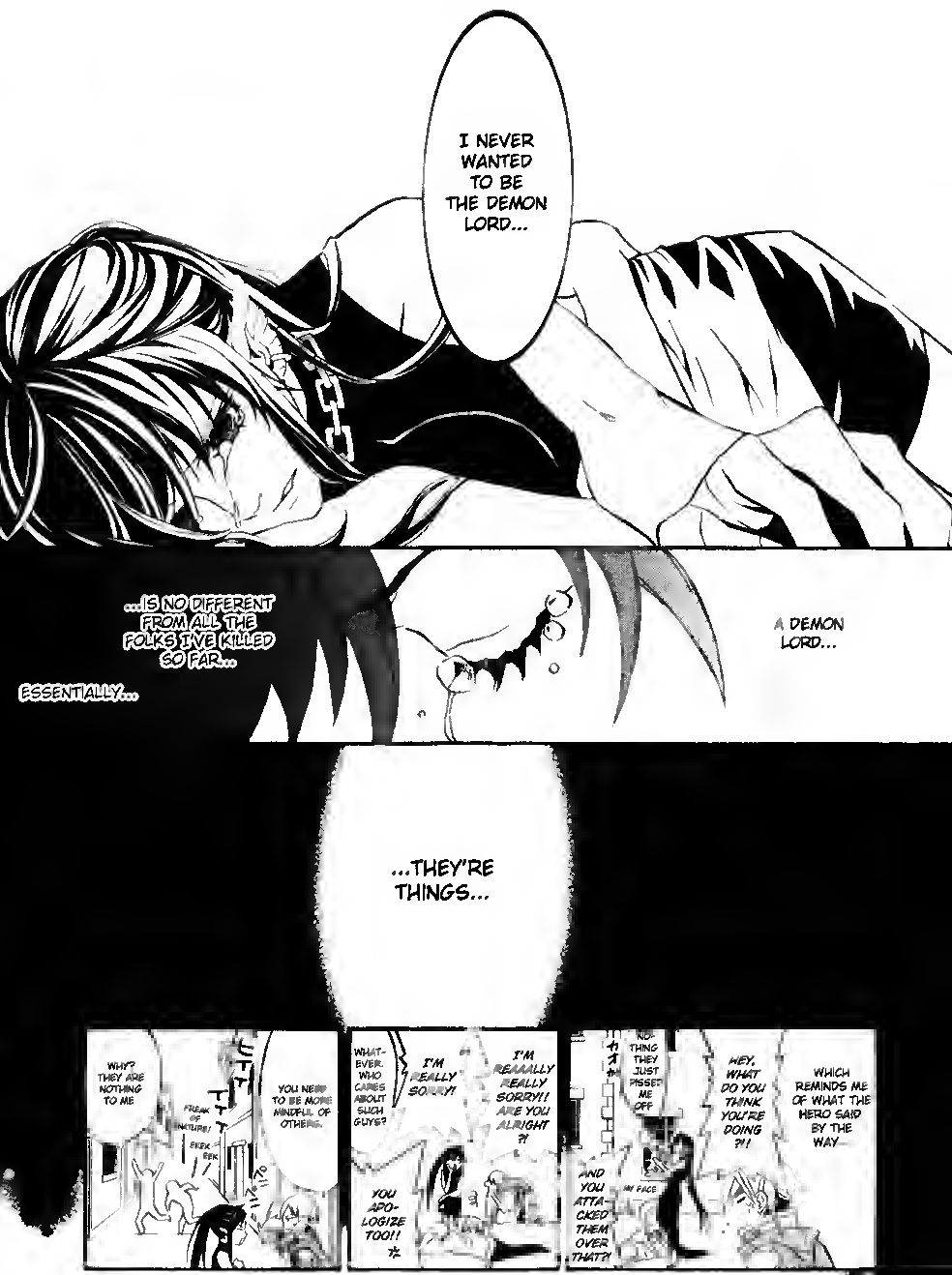
...AS FOR ME, I'M ALSO LOATH TO CAUSE YOU ANY HARM.
I FEEL FOR YOU LIKE A PARENT WOULD FOR A CHILD.
THE EXTERMINATION OF THE HUMAN RACE IS NOT JUST YOUR PARENTS' WILL, BUT THE GREATEST WISH OF ALL MONSTERKIND.
I BEG YOU! TO RECONSIDER YOUR POSITION AND BECOME THE MAOU ONCE AGAIN
YOU'RE STILL READY TO FORGIVE ME
EVEN NOW?
PROVIDED YOU KILL THE HERO, YES...
I SEE...
FINE, I UNDER-STAND.
SHEYLA-SAMA!!

BUT SORRY... THIS IS SOMETHING THAT I JUST CAN'T DO.

IT'S INCREDIBLE...
...SO STUBBORN...
.....
IF YOU WON'T BE THE MAOU, I HAVE NO USE FOR YOU.
I FAILED TO RAISE YOU PROPERLY, THEREFORE...
...I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO KILL YOU!
ONLY AS A DEMON LORD ARE YOU WORTH ANYTHING AT ALL!!

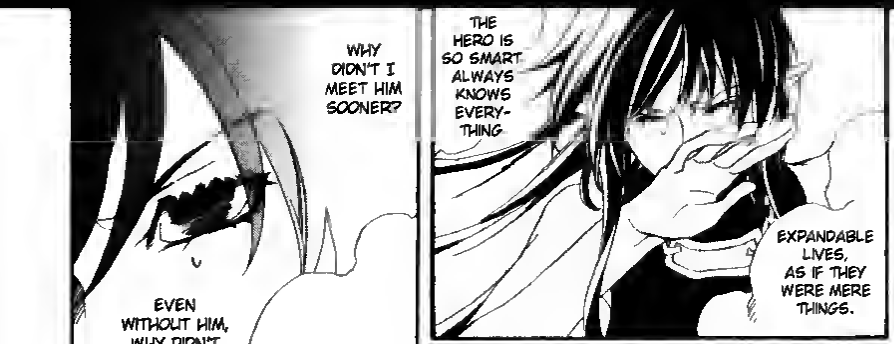
HEY, KAGAMI...
MY LEGS WON'T CARRY ME ANYMORE.
MUUUUH
I'LL HAVE TO GIVE YOU A PIGGYBACK RIDE, THEN IT'S THE ONLY SOLUTION.
PIGGY-BACK!! IS THAT EDIBLE?!
NO, IT'S NOT.
PUT YOUR HANDS ON MY SHOULDERS.
THIS IS PIGGY-BACK.
SO WHAT DO YOU THINK?

YOUR BACK IS HARD AND BONY AND IT HURTS.
AH... IF YOU SAY SO... WELL, I'M SORRY.
BUT IT FEELS NICE ANYWAY!!
BUT YOU JUST SAID THAT IT WAS HARD AND BONY.
IT'S SMOOTH AND CHILLY.
HUH... I DON'T GET IT.
IT'S HARD AND BONY AND IT'S SMOOTH.
I LIKE PIGGY-BACK!!
AAAH PLEASE CONTROL YOURSELF
SWOON
IF I WON'T BE THE DEMON LORD, YOU HAVE NO USE FOR ME... THAT'S IT...?
BUT IT'S STILL SAD TO HEAR IT...
I KNOW THAT...


I NEVER WANTED TO BE THE DEMON LORD...
A DEMON LORD...
...IS NO DIFFERENT FROM ALL THE FOLKS I'VE KILLED SO FAR...
ESSENTIALLY...
...THEY'RE THINGS...
WHY? THEY ARE NOTHING TO ME
FREAK OF NATURE!
EEEK
EEK
YOU NEED TO BE MORE MINDFUL OF OTHERS.
WHAT-EVER. WHO CARES ABOUT SUCH GUYS?
I'M REALLY SORRY!
I'M REAAALLY REALLY SORRY!! ARE YOU ALRIGHT ?!
YOU APO-LOGIZE TOO!!
AND YOU ATTA-CKED THEM OVER THAT?!
IN FACE
NOTHING THEY JUST PISSED ME OFF
HEY, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING ?!
WHICH REMINDS ME OF WHAT THE HERO SAID BY THE WAY...

OR RATHER, YOU SHOULD BE THE ONE APOLOGIZING.

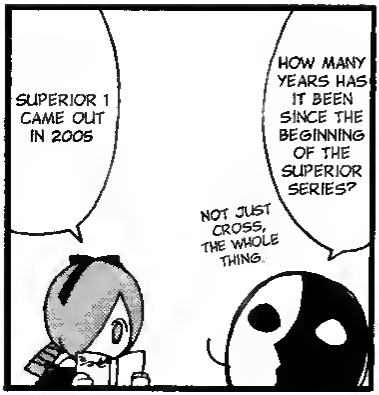
YOU CAN'T HAVE MUCH RESPECT FOR YOURSELF IF YOU CAN'T SHOW IT TO OTHERS...
I'M NOT GETTING IT-MEOW
HIS WORDS MADE LITTLE SENSE TO ME BACK THEN.
ガラガラ!
!?
BUT NOW I THINK I UNDERSTAND.
THAT'S RIGHT... I WAS MERELY HANDLING THEM THE SAME WAY I'D BEEN TREATING MYSELF.

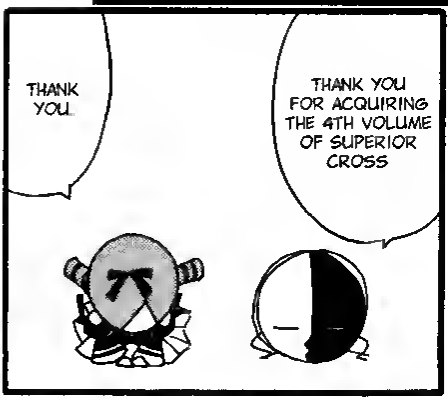

THE HERO IS SO SMART ALWAYS KNOWS EVERY-THING
EXPANDABLE LIVES, AS IF THEY WERE MERE THINGS.
WHY DIDN'T I MEET HIM SOONER?
EVEN WITHOUT HIM, WHY DIDN'T ANYONE ELSE TEACH ME?

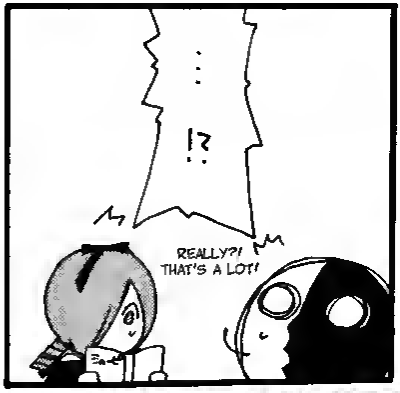
HAD YOU BEEN ABLE TO GIVE IT, I WOULD HAVE WELCOMED SUCH KNOWLEDGE FROM YOU...
THE GROUND
IF I ATTACK NOW, I AM GUARANTEED TO DIE AS WELL.
FINE, THEN...
FAREWELL, HERO...
EVEN IF YOU DON'T KILL THE HERO, I WILL.

Superior-Cross □4□ The End.

# AFTERWORD







創田 ノゾ様
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浅野 ユージ様
佐伯 リンドウ様
金澤 和菓子様
まる様
担当様
読者の皆様

いつもありがとうございます

# シュービアリア・クロス Superior

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